

THE  
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 534.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23, 1856.

PRICE { STAMPED ... 5d.  
UNSTAMPED 4d.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—THE POISON**  
STRYCHNINE. Lecture on the above by J. H. PEPPE, Esq., daily at Three and Nine. The POISON and the TESTS used for its DETECTION exhibited in the OXY-HYDROGEN MICROSCOPE. All the other Lectures, and the NEW and Beautiful DISSOLVING VIEWS OF SINDBAD the SAILOR, as usual. Admission 1s. Children and Schools half-price. JUVENILE MORNING every Wednesday.

**ROYAL PANOPTICON, LEICESTER-SQUARE.—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—UNRIVALLED**  
Attractions.—The Comical Histories of WHITTINGTON and PUSS IN BOOTS narrated by Mr. LEICESTER BUCKINGHAM, and illustrated by SPLENDID DIORAMIC VIEWS; to be alternated, during the Mornings and Afternoons only, with a RAMBLE THROUGH VENICE, and LIFE IN POMPEII, with their much admired Illustrations.—NATURAL MAGIC; Illustrated and Explained by Mr. J. D. MALCOLM.—CHEMISTRY for the YOUNG, by Mr. G. F. ASHALL.—"JOHN CHINAMAN at HOME," by Mr. LEICESTER BUCKINGHAM.—At intervals during the day, PERFORMANCES on the GRAND ORGAN.—During the Evening, a CHRISTMAS MUSICAL MELANGE, comprising Organ Performances by Mr. E. T. CHIFF—Songs by Miss BESSIE DALTON, Glee and Part Songs by the "Orpheus Glee Union," Solos on the Flute by Mr. BENJAMIN WELLS, R.A.M., and on the Piano by Mr. WILKINSON, &c.—Each Exhibition to conclude with the LUMINOUS and CHROMATIC FOUNTAIN.—From the commencement of the Christmas Season there will be Three Exhibitions Daily: Mornings, from Half-past Eleven to Two; Afternoons, from Three to Half-past Five; Evenings, from Seven to Ten.—Admission, One Shilling; Children and Schools, half-price.

**MILTON CLUB.**  
The MILTON CLUB is now OPEN for the use of Members. The FIRST GENERAL MEETING of Subscribers will be held shortly, of which due notice will be given.  
By Order,  
JOHN BENNETT, Secretary.  
14, Ludgate-hill, London, Dec. 19, 1855.

**COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.**  
A SOIREE, in connexion with this Society, will be held at the MILTON CLUB, on MONDAY, the 28th January.  
The Rev. Messrs. T. Binney, Dr. Tidman, N. Hall, S. Martin, and Dr. Campbell, together with Jas. Spicer, Esq., Treasurer, H. Bateman, Esq., G. A. Lloyd, Esq., from Sydney, and other friends, Ministers and laymen, have engaged to attend, and take part in the proceedings of the Evening.  
Tea and Coffee at Half-past Five o'clock. The attendance of Ladies is respectfully requested.  
Tickets may be had (gratis) on application at the Congregational Library, Blomfield-street, Finsbury, any day before Saturday, the 26th inst.  
THOMAS JAMES, Secretary.

**REV. J. HINTON'S COURSE** of  
LECTURES ON GOD'S GOVERNMENT OF MAN: at  
DEVONSHIRE-SQUARE CHAPEL, BISHOPSGATE-STREET,  
on SUNDAY EVENINGS, at Half-past Six.  
Third Lecture, Jan. 27. Subject: "Its Elements—Knowledge."

**THE SABBATH.**  
CONGREGATIONAL BOARD.  
At a SPECIAL MEETING of the BOARD, held on TUESDAY, January 15, 1856.  
Rev. JAMES HILL, Chairman.  
The following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:—  
1. That this Board, solemnly convinced of the Divine authority of the Lord's-day as the Christian Sabbath, and deeply impressed with the intimate connexion which subsists between its observance and the welfare of the community, regards with sorrow and alarm the bold and organised attempt to obtain legislative sanction for the introduction into England of such a desecration of the day as prevails on the Continent—an attempt which, if successful, will confer no boon upon any portion of the community, while it will inflict great evil upon the working classes especially, by depriving large numbers of their religious privileges, and even their civil rights, by compelling them to labour on a day which God has given to them for rest.  
2. That, while this Board believes that no legislature should attempt the enforcement of religious observances by human law, it yet deprecates most earnestly the violation of the day of rest, either by the sanction of legal enactments, or by the authority of the Executive Government of these realms.  
3. That, in accordance with these convictions and feelings, petitions be presented to both Houses of Parliament by this Board, praying—  
1. That the attendance of Regimental Bands, for amusement on the Lord's-day, in Kensington-gardens, or in garrison towns, or wherever else troops are stationed, may be discontinued.  
2. That the British Museum, the National Gallery, and other similar public establishments, may not be opened during any part of the Lord's-day. And,  
3. That no alteration be made in the law which prevents the opening of the Crystal Palace, and other exhibitions, on that day.  
4. That this Board earnestly recommends the presentation of petitions by all the independent congregations and their Sabbath schools throughout the Metropolis—the exercise of all possible influence to obtain the support of representatives to Parliament to such petitions—and the use of all other constitutional means calculated to secure the Sabbath from the profanation by which it is threatened.  
5. That while using these means in defence of the Lord's-day from public and authoritative desecration, this Board is deeply sensible that its members are called on by present circumstances to direct the special attention of their congregations to the Scriptural authority and vital importance of the Sabbath as a spiritual institution, and to offer fervent prayer that the Lord of the Sabbath will be pleased to bless these and all other lawful means for the practical maintenance of His authority, and the promotion of true religion in the land.  
JAMES HILL, Chairman.  
ROBERT ASHTON, } Secs.  
GEORGE WILKINS, }  
Congregational Library, Jan. 21, 1856.

**ROYAL JENNERIAN and LONDON**  
VACCINE ESTABLISHMENT.

The ANNUAL MEETING will be held at the FREEMASONS' TAVERN, 69, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, LINCOLN'S-INN-FIELDS, on FRIDAY, the 25th day of January, 1856. The Chair will be taken at Four o'clock P.M. precisely.  
S. R. BARDOULEAU, Hon. Sec.  
No. 18, Providence-row, Finsbury-square,  
Jan. 22, 1856.

**TO RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS.—A**  
Gentleman of INDEPENDENT PROPERTY is desirous of being occupied daily as a SECRETARY or ASSISTANT SECRETARY. REMUNERATION QUITE SECONDARY.  
Address, "Veritas," at the News Rooms, 84, Fleet-street.

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Apply to 48 and 50, Cheapside, Leicester.

**TO MILLINERS.—WANTED,** a YOUNG PERSON of good address, as SHOW ROOM HAND. A Dissenter preferred.  
Address, stating all particulars, viz., qualifications, age, reference, &c., to A. C., Post-office, Oxford.

**TO MILLERS.—TO BE SOLD,** a SMALL WATER CORN MILL, with a good DWELLING HOUSE, BAKEHOUSE, and other OUTHOUSES, together with about Eighteen Acres of land. A Pious Person who, in connexion with business, wishes to be useful in a poor neighbourhood, the above would be a suitable property.  
For particulars, apply to Mr. Burt, Beaulieu, near Southampton.

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**WANTED, in the GROCERY and PROVISION TRADE,** an active, respectable ASSISTANT, about twenty-five years of age, who thoroughly understands the PROVISION DEPARTMENT, with a little knowledge of the GROCERY. A member of a Christian Church would be greatly preferred.  
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**WANTED, a quick, active YOUNG MAN,** about Twenty-one to Twenty-five years of age, who can write a first-rate hand, to ASSIST in the WAREHOUSE, with a view to his being put upon the road. He must possess character, energy, and tact.  
Apply to Messrs. Evans and Stafford, Cheese Factors and Cigar Manufacturers, Leicester.

**ARTICLED PUPIL.—A SURGEON-DENTIST** and CUPPER of eminence in his profession, with an extensive practice, has a VACANCY for ONE ARTICLED PUPIL. Premium and reference will be required.  
Address, R. T., care of Mr. C. H. May, 26, Lombard-street City.

**TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—**  
WANTED, an Intelligent, Respectable YOUTH, as IN or OUT-DOOR APPRENTICE in an Established First-Class House of Business in the LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S BOOT and SHOE TRADE, at the West-end of Town, to whom great advantages are offered for acquiring a thorough knowledge of both branches of the business. He would be treated as one of the family, will also be free of the City of London. Premium accordingly.  
Address, W. L., 22, Portman-place, Edgware-road.

**CONGREGATIONAL MISSIONARY**  
WANTED. To be well qualified for domiciliary visitation, for visiting soldiers and their families, and also for Village Preaching. A suitable Agent will receive a good salary.  
Apply to Rev. J. S. Hall, Cheatham, Kent.

**EDUCATION.—REQUIRED, in a Select** Establishment, a few miles from London, a YOUNG LADY, not under Thirteen years of age, as ARTICLED PUPIL; to be instructed in English, French, and Music. Terms, Seventeen Guineas per annum.  
Address, Mr. Arthorpe, Publisher, 22, Bishopsgate-street Without.

**EXCHANGE of PUPILS.—The friends of** a YOUNG GENTLEMAN, aged Eleven years, would be glad to RECEIVE into their Establishment ONE or TWO YOUNG LADIES on terms of mutual advantage.  
Address, Miss French, Lansdowne House, Upper Edmonton.

**WANTED, a RESIDENT GOVERNESS,** to take the ENTIRE CHARGE of Four Children, under Ten, and their Wardrobes. Requirements—English thoroughly, with Music, French, and Drawing. A Dissenter preferred. Salary about 15*l.* per annum.  
Address, with full particulars and references, to Miss Harwood, London-road, Maidstone, Kent.

**A YOUNG LADY** wishes to obtain a SITUATION as TEACHER in a BOARDING SCHOOL or PRIVATE FAMILY. She is competent to give a good English education, with Music, French, and Drawing.  
Address, A. B., Post-office, Grays, Essex.

**TO PUPIL TEACHERS and SCHOOL** ASSISTANTS.—WANTED, in a Private School, an ASSISTANT. Salary, with food and lodging, according to age and ability.  
Apply to James Marsh, Thame, Oxon.

**PELICAN HOUSE, PECKHAM.—Miss** FLETCHER begs to inform her Friends that her Pupils will RE-ASSEMBLE on TUESDAY the 29th inst.

**THE REV. T. HARWOOD MORGAN'S** SCHOOL for YOUNG GENTLEMEN is conducted at SHIRELAND HALL, Two Miles from Birmingham.  
A Circular, containing Terms and Testimonials, will be sent on application to Mr. Morgan.

**GOWER-STREET, GREEN-HILL,** DERBY.—Miss GRAFFTEY will be happy to RECEIVE her Pupils on MONDAY, the 28th inst.  
Terms, including a comprehensive English education, with Music and French, Thirty Guineas per annum.  
A VACANCY for a GOVERNESS PUPIL.

**THE GLEBE, CHAMPION HILL.**  
The Misses ANSTIE and Miss BATES inform their friends that their present VACATION will CLOSE on THURSDAY, the 31st of this month, on which day their pupils will RE-ASSEMBLE.  
Terms and references may be obtained by inquiry, addressed as above.

**EDUCATION for YOUNG LADIES,** KING-STREET, LEICESTER.—The MISSES MIALI, whose school has been established for many years, continue to receive a limited number of Young Ladies for BOARD AND EDUCATION. The best masters are engaged for French, German, Drawing, Music, Singing, and Deportment.  
The Duties of School will be RESUMED on the 25th January.  
References: Rev. G. Legge, LL.D., Leicester; Rev. J. Sutcliffe, Manchester; W. Sunderland, Esq., Ashton-under-Lyne; Rev. J. G. Miall, Bradford; Rev. G. E. Miall, Ullesthorpe; and E. Miall, Esq., M.P., Sydenham-park, London. Terms and full particulars on application.

**WEST OF ENGLAND DISSENTERS'** PROPRIETARY SCHOOL, TAUNTON.

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The Pupils are prepared by an efficient course of instruction and training for commercial or professional life.  
Special attention is given to their liberal and religious education.  
Terms, including School Books, from Twenty-four to Thirty-two Guineas per annum.

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HEAD-MASTER.—The Rev. PHILIP SMITH, B.A., assisted by Five resident Masters, besides other Teachers.  
The object of this Public School is to give a first-class education based on religious principles. The course of Study includes Classics, Mathematics, and the various branches of a sound English education. The situation is beautiful and healthy; the spacious premises were provided expressly for the school, and the domestic arrangements are on a most liberal scale.  
The first session of 1856 will commence on the 30th January. Prospectuses on application to the Head Master at the School, or to the Secretary, at the Committee-room, Founders Hall, St. Swithin's-lane, London.  
The Committee have decided to revert to the system of TWO HALF-YEARLY TERMS, with Vacations, at Midsummer and Christmas.

By order of the Committee,  
ALGERNON WELLS, Secretary.

**MILL-HILL SCHOOL.** INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE.

The FIRST PLACE in the recent Examination of Candidates for the H. E. I. C. Civil Service was gained by a former pupil of the school.  
The MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP at the Second M.B. Examination in the University of London for 1855 was gained by a former Pupil of the School. Other old Pupils have obtained honours at the Matriculation and B.A. Examinations.  
By order of the Committee,  
ALGERNON WELLS, Secretary.  
Founder's Hall, Swithin's-lane.



### ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG GENTLEMEN.—HEATHFIELD HOUSE, PARKSTONE, DORSET-SHIRE (midway between Poole and the rising watering-place of Bournemouth). Rev. WALTER GILL.

The locality of this Establishment presents especial claims on the consideration of those Parents to whom the health of their children may be a matter of anxious concern. It is delightfully situated, in a neighbourhood near the sea, the salubrity of which, according to the highest medical testimony, is almost unrivalled in the South of England. The domestic arrangements are of a character to promote both the comfort and gentlemanly training of the Pupils; and the education attempted to be imparted is such, as in all respects to harmonise with the growing requirements of the times. Terms, which are moderate, on application. References are kindly permitted to Mrs. Ellis, Rose-hill, Hoddessdon, Herts; Revs. J. A. James, and Isaac New, Birmingham; Revs. Samuel Ransom and W. Watson, Tutors of Hackney College; Rev. T. R. Barker, Resident Tutor of Spring Hill College; Revs. J. Viney, Clapton, and Thomas James, London; Revs. E. R. Conder, M.A., Poole, Joseph Fletcher, Christchurch; J. M. Charlton, M.A., Totteridge; W. Tice, Esq., Sopley-park; with many other Ministers and gentlemen, in town and country. N.B. Parkstone is easily accessible by London and South Western Railway.

### SYDENHAM.—PERRY-HILL HOUSE

**SEMINARY.**—Principal, Mrs. J. W. TODD.—This establishment offers a complete English education; the best instruction in Latin; German, Italian, and French, by native professors; and Drawing, Painting, Music, &c., by the first masters. The system of tuition pursued recognises the diversified native capabilities of the pupils, and is adapted to develop their individual energies, and give them confidence in exercising their own power of thought and inquiry—and, by forming their characters on the basis of intelligent religious principle, it aims to fit them for their missions and responsibilities in life. The mansion and grounds are elevated and secluded—situated in the most lovely and healthy locality—and in a position to command all the educational advantages furnished by the PALACE OF ART. Full particulars by post.

Referees:—H. Brown, Esq., M.P., Tewkesbury; Apsley Pellatt, Esq., M.P., Staines; Mrs. Clara L. Balfour, Paddington; the Revs. Dr. Redford, Worcester; Dr. Andrews, Northampton; Thomas Thomas, Fenny Stratford; F. Trevellick, Secretary to the Baptist Mission; A. M. Stalker, Leeds; J. P. Marshall, Leicester; S. J. Davis, London; T. Winter, Bristol; and G. H. Davis, Secretary of Religious Tract Society; J. J. Brown, Birmingham; C. J. Middleitch and S. Manning, Frome; J. Purser, Esq., Rushmore Castle, Dublin; J. Toome, Esq., Salisbury; Daniel Pratt, Esq., London; H. and W. Todd, Esqrs., Dublin; J. C. Salisbury, Esq., City-road; Rev. J. J. Davies, Luton; Rev. Dr. Burns, Paddington.

### THE GENERAL LIFE and FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the THIRTY-FIFTH HALF-YEARLY DIVIDEND, at the rate of Six per Cent., declared on the 16th inst., is payable to the Shareholders, at the Office of the Company, No. 62, KING WILLIAM-STREET, LONDON-BRIDGE, between the hours of Ten and Four.

By order of the Board, THOMAS PRICE, Sec.

#### SPECIAL NOTICE.

The Books of the Society close on 1st March, and Proposals lodged at the Head Office, or at any of the Agencies, on or before that date, will secure the advantage of the present year's entry, and of One Year's Additional Bonus over later Proposals.

#### MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE.

THE WHOLE PROFITS DIVIDED AMONGST THE ASSURED.

### THE SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. Instituted 1831. Incorporated by Special Act of Parliament.

The Fund accumulated from the Contributions of Members exceeds NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS. The Annual Revenue exceeds ONE HUNDRED and SIXTY-THREE THOUSAND POUNDS.

The Amount of existing Assurances exceeds FOUR MILLIONS and a QUARTER STERLING.

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THE NEXT DIVISION OF PROFITS TAKES PLACE at the 1st of MARCH, 1856, and Profits effected before that date receive one year's additional Bonus over those effected after that date.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, Manager.  
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HEAD OFFICE:  
26, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE, EDINBURGH.

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The advantages offered by this Company will be seen on an investigation of its Rates of Premium, which are based upon the latest and most approved corrected Tables of Mortality, and the terms of its Loan business. It offers to the Assured the security of a large subscribed Capital, combined with all the advantages of a Mutual Assurance Office—Eighty per Cent. of the Profits being divided amongst the Policy-holders every five years. Policies are Indisputable.

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HUGH BROWN TAPLIN, Secretary.

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CHIEF OFFICES—1*B*, WELBECK-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQ.

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To furnish Guarantees, at moderate Premiums, to parties desirous of opening accounts with the manufacturing and mercantile houses in Great Britain and Ireland; also to parties paying part only of purchase money for businesses, houses, land, estates, &c., in whose behalf this Society furnishes guarantees to owners and vendors as surety for due payment of balances upon terms mutually arranged.

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STEPHEN GURNEY, Manager.

### NATIONAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, 48, GRACECHURCH-STREET, LONDON.

FOR MUTUAL ASSURANCE ON LIVES, ANNUITIES, &c.

CHAIRMAN—SAMUEL HATHURST LUCAS, Esq.  
DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN—CHARLES LUSHINGTON, Esq.

Abstract of the REPORT of the Directors for 1856:—

The number of Policies issued during the year	1,073
Assuring the sum of	£543,449 0 0
Annual Premiums thereon	£18,445 8 6
Policies issued from the commencement of the Institution	
in December, 1835	18,567
Policies now in force	13,740
Annual Income—from Premiums (after deducting £33,348 abatement allowed)	£189,955 15 2
Ditto—from Interest on invested capital	49,907 18 3
	£239,763 13 5

Amount returned to Members in abatement of Premiums 240,134 11 8 |



# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 534.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23, 1856.

PRICE UNSTAMPED 4d.  
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## CONTENTS.

ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS:	Life Peerages .....	57
A Worldly-wise Economy 49	The Easy Solution of a Difficult Question .....	57
Religious Intelligence .....	Madame Goldschmidt at Exeter Hall .....	58
The Meeting of Parliament 50	A Fashionable Marriage .....	58
Cambridge University Election .....	The Fine Arts .....	58
Foreign and Colonial .....	A Week's Murders .....	58
A Native African Chief .....	The Rugeley Poisonings .....	58
Reformatory Conference .....	A Memoir of Wm. Palmer .....	59
Mr. Bright on Capital Punishment .....	Court, Personal, and Official News .....	59
The State-Church Question in Geneva .....	Miscellaneous News .....	59
Postscript .....	Law and Police .....	60
Summary .....	Literature .....	60
Prospects of Peace .....	Spencer's Psychology .....	62
Murder without Passion or Bloodshed .....	Gleanings .....	62
	Obituary .....	62
	Money Market, &c. ....	63

## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### A WORLDLY-WISE ECONOMY.

COLONIAL society is not, we apprehend, the most favourable soil for the culture of a delicate morality—and, assuredly, Jamaica cannot claim to be regarded in the light of an exception. The dominant class there have never, that we are aware of, been conspicuous either for the extreme purity of their lives, or for the fervour and spirituality of their religion. Like dominant classes elsewhere, however, they make up for personal deficiencies in both these respects, by a more than ordinary zeal for the spiritual well-being of the community over which they preside. As it does not suit them to sway their inferiors by religious example, they are all the more anxious to mould them by law. To provide liberally for the clergy out of the public revenues of the island, is, no doubt, a cheap mode of displaying one's interest in Christianity—and the Legislature of Jamaica has been uniformly most religious after this convenient fashion.

In point of fact, it has been religious overmuch. Its zeal has outrun its prudence. Measuring its liberality to the established clergy by its wishes rather than by its resources, it has more than once found itself obliged by a painful necessity to abridge the amplitude of its own bounty. Thus the clerical stipends which under 9 Vic. c. 33 amounted to 30,870*l.*, were reduced by the 14 Vic. c. 43 to 27,699*l.*, or thereabouts. But even this smaller sum, although divided among twenty-two rectors of parishes and their fifty curates, is now deemed exorbitant—and, therefore, in somewhat suspicious haste, the governor, legislative council, and assembly, are invited, and will probably consent, to make some further abatement. By a Bill now before us, and which will, no doubt, be carried, it is proposed "further to reduce the salaries of the clergy payable out of the public treasury, and to provide for the payment of such reduced salaries for a term of twenty years." Should all the clergy agree to accept of the proposed reduction, the Jamaica public revenue will be charged in future an annual sum of 26,970*l.*, instead of 27,699*l.*, as now, for the stipends of the established clergy—but should they all signify their dissent from this arrangement, the present amount will remain unchanged till A.D. 1860, after which it will be reduced to 23,060*l.*

Now, surely, the *Nonconformist* will be expected to hail a measure of this kind as an indication of a declining attachment to the principle of compulsory support of religious institutions. These West Indians, it is true, some of our friends may urge, do not go so fast as you would wish them—but, at least, they are going in your direction. They are gradually—too gradually, perhaps—weaning the inhabitants of the island from their dependence upon the State for their religious instruction—and in the course of another century or so will no doubt be justified in withdrawing a public provision for the clergy altogether. And we must candidly admit that the Bill now before us is worded throughout, as if the Legislature were conscious of doing a harsh turn to the clergy. Economy compels them to save a thousand or two annually, even at the expense of strong attachment to their authorised spiritual guides. But they perform the disagreeable duty as considerately as possible—and, therefore—we quote the

words of the Bill—they propose, "as a compensation for such immediate reduction, to secure the salaries and emoluments to be hereafter payable to the rectors, curates, registrar and apparitor, from the public treasury, for a period of twenty years."

It may be natural instinct, in our case, or it may be habit, or it may be the result of some acquaintance with the Ecclesiastical Commission at home—but whenever "the powers that be" appear to be bearing particularly hard upon the interests of the established clergy, we always suspect a Church job. What can make the Governor and Legislature of Jamaica so anxious to reduce the clerical stipends, that it should be deemed requisite to do so immediately? The Act under which the clergy are now paid will expire in four years, and inasmuch as the Bill now under consideration will not save to the public revenue, in this single item, a thousand a year out of between twenty and thirty thousand, it would seem only natural and decent to let the existing Act alone till 1860. The Bill does not propose to set aside the operation of that Act without the consent of the clergy, in each individual case—but, ostensibly, with a view of extorting that consent, it enacts a much larger reduction, after the lapse of four years, of the stipends of those who insist upon receiving what the present law allows them as long as the law itself remains in force. A gentle compulsion is apparently brought to bear upon those spiritual instructors who refuse acquiescence in an immediate reduction. There must surely be some reason for this haste—something which will account for this seeming harshness.

There is. The popular feeling of the colony, we understand, is passing through a rapid and decided change. In the course of two or three years more, there is every probability that the House of Assembly returned by the constituent bodies will be unwilling to make any public provision for religious purposes. The Governor, consequently, hesitates to leave the decision to public opinion as it is likely to be expressed in 1860. He is in a violent hurry to antedate the settlement. He brings it forward now, four years before the expected time, under the plea of economy—and by skilfully framing the bill in such a manner as to make it appear a hardship upon the clergy, by introducing it at a time when nobody looked for it, and by pushing it hastily through the Legislature, he hopes to secure the clerical stipends, with a trifling abatement, for twenty years to come, whilst he gains credit with the people in this country for a vigorous measure of financial retrenchment. The movement is dexterous—but in Jamaica it is regarded, as it ought to be, as nothing better than a keen handed trick.

The Jamaica Missionaries—Independent, Baptist, and Presbyterian—and their respective congregations—the Dissenters of the Antilles—are fully awake to the fact that a march has been stolen upon them. They will be too late, owing to the surprise which has been played off upon them, to prevent the passing of the measure by the local legislature. But they will not surrender in despair. The Act will be sent over to this country for the Royal Assent—and those who object to it, and to the manner in which it has been foisted on the colony, will despatch a memorial to the Colonial Office, as numerous signed as possible, praying Her Majesty to disallow the Bill. The remonstrants, we understand, intend to seek the assistance of the Liberation Society—and, in some shape or other, we trust, the matter will be brought under the notice of Parliament. Possibly, it may be found in the issue that Governor Barkly's adroitness has done more harm than good to the prospects of his clerical clients. It is not by such sleight-of-hand tricks as this that the Church Establishment can be saved.

PROTESTANT HALL AT OXFORD.—In a document, bearing among others the well-known names of Montagu Villiers, Isaac Taylor, R. Bickersteth, Culling Eardley Eardley, Apsley Pellatt, Wriothesley Russell,

E. Litton, and John Cumming, together with various ministers, the intention is announced of founding in Oxford, under the auspices of Lord Shaftesbury, "a Protestant Hall." This hall is to be "based upon defined principles of the common faith, either taken from the Articles of the Church of England or otherwise described"—in which "nineteen-twentieths of serious Protestants would concur." It is pointed out that, although the Principal must be a member of Convocation, and, therefore, of the Church of England, "that restriction would not apply to the assistants. All would be persons imbued with the common faith; but, in the spirit of the Act of Parliament, all need not be persons who worship in the Established Church." The premises are to be vested in trustees, and "the trust would provide for a due allotment of influence between the trustees and instructors."—*Cambridge Chronicle*. [The scheme is no new one, but has been promulgated some nine months. We suppose it has been thwarted by the University authorities, who have managed to render the act of last session virtually a dead letter.]

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD IN THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.—The Roman Catholic "fast" called "All Souls' Day," has been observed this year by the Rev. W. J. E. Bennett, the Tractarian vicar of Frome, who hung the church with black, had four services, for all of which a bell was tolled, and administered the Lord's Supper at the second. These facts having been laid before his diocesan, the Right Rev. Lord Auckland, who wrote to him on the subject, Mr. Bennett replied, defending the practice, and denouncing those who had complained. Though All Souls' Day is not in the Established Calendar, he quoted, in support of praying for the dead the following judgment by the Court of Arches: "Prayer for the dead is not contrary to the Articles and Canons of the Church of England. It was generally practised by the Christians of the most early ages, who prayed that the souls of the dead may have rest and quiet between death and the resurrection; and that at the last day they may receive their perfect consummation and bliss." He added: "Notwithstanding, however, what has been said, upon reconsidering the whole question, and viewing it in all its bearings, the doctrine of intercessory prayer for, and commemoration of, the dead, is of so delicate a character, and in the popular mind so difficult to distinguish from the erroneous doctrine of purgatory—as is too evident when even clergymen cannot draw the distinction)—that I have come to the conclusion that it will be better for me in future years, should God spare me, to abstain from pressing the public observance of this day." The bishop tells him that his determination is "most satisfactory," and there the matter ends.

THE PROPOSAL for an amalgamation of the Protestant Association with the Protestant Alliance has been negatived by the Committee of the Protestant Association, although only by a narrow majority.

NONCONFORMIST CHILDREN DISINHERITED FOR THEIR RELIGION.—The *Patriot*, of Wednesday, gives the following painful instance of religious bigotry. The names are not given; but our contemporary states that the facts have occurred in "a district where there is an abundance of clergymen, of whom, perhaps, the least harm that can be said, is, that they are not qualified to teach others the Gospel, because they do not know it themselves. Pompous High-Churchism and sheer Tractarianism are rank; and even gross immorality is not unknown. The only Evangelical light in this dark neighbourhood, is held forth by Protestant Dissenters; few in number, and chiefly consisting of the poor, yet, so blessed by God as to have been the means of salvation to numbers, otherwise doomed to gross darkness by the authorised provision of the State." The *Patriot*, after some remarks, continues: "In this dark district three orphan children have been reared. Their father, a man of ardent and enlightened piety, died thirteen years ago; leaving their religious education, which he had begun, to be carried on by their widowed mother. The result, by the blessing of God, has been, the recent enrolment of the elder two,—a youth of eighteen, and a girl of fifteen,—in the little village church. Scarcely had these youthful Nonconformists partaken of their first communion, when they experienced the tender mercies of the Church of England. The sudden death of their paternal grandfather (of whom, by the bye, they are the only descendants), revealed the actual infliction of what had been before threatened,—total disinheritance from all his property, unless they conformed to his imperious will. The property is landed, amounting in value to some hundreds a year; and the terms are, full communion with the Church as by law established, at the age of twenty-one, or to be treated as dead, and the property to go to a distant relative of the testator. Thus, for the sole crime of dissent from the established



formula—a crime taught them by those they have most loved and revered from infancy—they are stigmatised as unworthy to succeed to their rightful inheritance, and, so far as their grandfather is concerned, are consigned to indigent poverty."

**THE LIBERATION OF RELIGION SOCIETY.**—We understand that the Rev. E. S. Pryce, A.B., and Mr. Hickman Smith, representing the committee of this society, have left London for Scotland, with the intention of employing two or three weeks in exertions to enlist the sympathy and energies of Scottish spiritualists, and to carry on there that work of re-organisation in which the society has busily engaged since the changes made at the close of 1853.

**SABBATH OBSERVANCE.**—In consequence of the formation in the metropolis of the Sunday League, the Liverpool clergy of all denominations have agreed to preach sermons in defence of the observance of the Sabbath simultaneously for two Sundays in all the churches and chapels in the town. Some of the sermons were preached last Sunday, and the remainder will be delivered next Sunday, making in all 144 sermons preached in 109 churches and chapels of various denominations. The lay members of this Sabbath Defence Association will be invited to co-operate with the clergy next Tuesday, when a public meeting will be held in St. George's-hall, Mr. T. B. Horsfall, M.P., presiding.—*Manchester Guardian*.

**MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.**—Lord Ardmillan has pronounced judgment upon this important question. The case was one which involved the right to the succession to an estate in the county of Linlithgow, which was claimed by Alex. Livingstone, the son of a marriage celebrated in London, between his father and a woman who was the sister of a former wife deceased. Lord Ardmillan holds, that the child being legitimate according to the law of the domicile at the date of the marriage, the child must be taken as legitimate all the world over. There is a second point, of more interest, because it settles directly the character of such a marriage according to the law of Scotland. It was pleaded, in answer to the rule of international law, that although it holds in the general case, yet it can never hold in the case where the foreign marriage is incestuous. Lord Ardmillan adopts this exception to the general rule; but holds that the connexion is not incestuous by the law of Scotland. He admits that there is a great body of authority in support of the notion that it is a forbidden or incestuous connexion; and he admits that the Confession of Faith is quite explicit on the subject. But he holds that the question is still open and undecided, and must be determined according to the interpretation to be now put upon the language of the seventeenth chapter of Leviticus. Now, although in that chapter marriage with a wife's sister in her lifetime is forbidden, there is, says his lordship, nowhere a prohibition against marriage with a sister of a deceased wife. Therefore it is not an incestuous nor illegal marriage, although Presbyterian ministers, bound by their Confession of Faith, may be liable to ecclesiastical censure if they solemnise it. The result is, that his lordship has preferred Alexander Livingstone, the issue of such a connexion, in the competition for the property.

**THE KING OF PRUSSIA'S REPLY TO THE RELIGIOUS LIBERTY DEPUTATION.**—Our readers will remember that Sir Culling Eardley and others, as representatives of different countries, waited on the King of Prussia some weeks ago, at Cologne, as a Deputation from the Paris Evangelical Alliance Conference. His Majesty's answer is published in *extenso* in the *Post Zeitung* of Frankfurt. It is dated the 11th Dec., 1855, and signed by His Excellency M. de Bernsdorff. The representative of the King reiterates, at the outset, in the name of his august sovereign, the assurances of hearty goodwill given by the King himself to the Deputation at Cologne; he then informs Sir Culling Eardley that his Majesty has ordered a searching inquiry with respect to the acts of intolerance which had been notified to him by the Deputation as having been committed in his own dominions; and that he has, moreover, instructed his representatives at the Courts of Electoral Hesse, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Saxe-Meiningen, and Schaumburg-Lippe, to call the attention of those Governments to the acts of persecution committed in these several States, as set forth also by the Deputation, and to urge an inquiry, and the adoption of measures, for ensuring religious liberty to Baptist Christians. In conclusion, his Majesty requests Sir Culling Eardley to communicate this reply to the members of the Deputation.

**THE AUSTRIAN CONCORDAT.**—The Rev. Dr. Cumming, on Thursday night, delivered a second lecture on this subject at Freemasons' Hall, to a numerous and attentive audience. The lecturer reviewed successively the various arguments advanced by Cardinal Wiseman and Mr. Bowyer in defence of the Concordat; and appealing to the recognised authorities of the Roman Catholic Church, refuted them in a masterly style by a *reductio ad absurdum*, or an *argumentum ad hominem* not less severe than conclusive. He pointed out the difference between uniformity and unity, and especially reprobating the assumptions of the Papal Church in this particular, proved that greater diversities existed among Catholics than Protestants. The proceedings terminated in the usual manner.

**PERSECUTION IN FRANCE.**—Very recently the Prefect of the Somme refused his authorisation to open a Protestant Reformed Church at Franvillers. Government called upon the Prefect to appoint a commission to inquire into the subject, but, as might be expected, without satisfactory result. Without visiting the locality, without interrogating a single unofficial inhabitant of Franvillers, it made a report to the Government in which the most inaccurate judgment, the most unjust conclusions in respect of the Reformed Church, and the grossest fabrications, served as a pre-justification to the Government to con-

firm the prohibition pronounced by the Prefect. The complaint against the magistrate has been without result; the affair has been stifled, the truth has not seen the light; and, quite recently, the Minister of Worship, placing above all suspicion the veracity of the functionaries who had been charged with the counter-inquiry, has pronounced definitively the prohibition of the church in question. His Majesty the Emperor, on his part, has thought fit to confirm the decision of his Minister, and has at the same time, pronounced against the free exercise of the Reformed worship in the commune of Estissac (Aube).

**RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN TURKEY.**—The Constantinople correspondent of the *Record*, after relating the facts of the recent Mohammedan persecutions at Aintab, adds: "I have reason to know that when the memorial to the Sultan, from the Paris Conference of all Nations and Churches, was presented to Fuad Pasha, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, on a recent occasion, he read the whole document through with marked attention and strong emotion (of whatever kind his feelings may have been), and he stated that the memorial should reach the throne of the Emperor of the Turks. He appeared quite informed of the presentation of similar appeals to other crowned heads. It is a very remarkable fact that such a document should be so presented and so received, since, as they all assert, it amounts to a demand to renounce the fundamental principle of Mohammedanism as based on the Koran and Divine authority."

### Religious Intelligence.

**PERCY CHAPEL.**—The Rev. Joshua Watson, lecturer of the parish church of Clapham, has succeeded the late Rev. Robert Montgomery in the ministry of this chapel. Mr. Watson belongs to the Evangelical party, and is reputed to be a popular preacher.

**RATCLIFF.**—The Rev. R. S. Bayley, of Queen-street Chapel, Ratcliff, informed the congregation on Sunday last, that he intended to resign his ministerial connexion with that place during the present year.

**HORTON COLLEGE.**—On Friday evening last, Jan. 18, the students of the Independent College, Airdale, met, by invitation, the students of the Baptist College, Horton. After an excellent tea, addresses were delivered by several gentlemen of both institutions, expressive of the liveliest sympathy in each other's welfare. The evening passed off very pleasantly.

**PARADISE CHAPEL, CHELSEA.**—On Monday se'night a meeting of the Church and congregation was held at the above place of worship, to take farewell of their late pastor, the Rev. Thomas J. Cole. The meeting was of a deeply interesting character, and in the course of the evening two handsomely bound volumes were presented to Mr. Cole, in the name of the Sabbath-school teachers, "as a token of their affectionate remembrance of his kind sympathy and earnest co-operation with them in their work."

**NEW ASYLUM FOR FATHERLESS CHILDREN.**—On Monday, the usual half-yearly meeting of the subscribers and friends of this charity was held at the London Tavern, for the purpose of electing twelve children, from an approved list of 102 candidates. The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor was to have occupied the chair, but did not, till a few minutes after the appointed time for commencing, make his appearance. Major-General Buckley, therefore, presided, and in opening the proceedings briefly explained the object of the meeting, stating that from the large number of candidates and the small number of admissions there would be large numbers of anxious hearts disappointed, but he hoped that fact would not deter them from the utmost exertions, since by perseverance all would be ultimately sure of success. (Cheers.) He sincerely hoped that that excellent institution would continue to receive their warmest support. At present, he regretted to say, there was no good house sufficiently large to contain all the family comfortably, but that want would be speedily supplied, since the directors hoped to open the new premises early in the ensuing spring. The Lord Mayor then entered the room, and expressed the interest he felt in the proceedings, and in the objects of charity, considering, as he did, that the highest charity was to help the widow and the fatherless. Mr. Alderman Wire called attention to the pleasing fact, that, on that day ten years, a vote of thanks was passed to the present Lord Mayor for his then services to the charity, and the interest which he always manifested in its welfare. The poll was then declared to be duly opened, and the election was proceeded with. Thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

**EXTENSION OF SABBATH-SCHOOLS IN SCOTLAND.**—A conference of Sabbath-school teachers, which was well attended, has just been held in Sinclair's Temperance Hotel, Edinburgh, for the purpose of considering the propriety of instituting, and the best means of carrying out, a general and simultaneous canvass of the city, for the purpose of bringing a larger number of scholars under the influence of Sabbath-school institutions. Professor Miller occupied the chair. Mr. Wright, of Birmingham, said, with reference to the canvass that had taken place in Birmingham, to which allusion had been made, it was gratifying to him to find that it had incited, not only Edinburgh, but also the London Sabbath-school Union. Mr. John Greig, jun., secretary, stated that they had met for the purpose of considering, first, the propriety of instituting a canvass for scholars over the whole town; and, 2ndly, the best means of carrying out such a canvass. Two things seemed conclusively to settle the first point—namely, the fact, that, to the best of their calculation, 10,000 children were growing up receiving little or no religious instructions,—and the remarkable success of the Birmingham movement. In a recent Report, the

Union submitted to the teachers and the public the following result of their inquiries and calculations: Estimated number of the juvenile population of Edinburgh between the ages of 5 and 15, being 23½ per cent. of the entire population of 160,302, 37,671; of that number there are attending Sabbath-schools, 15,318; of which number, however, 1,404 attend two schools, 702; leaving, as the total number of individuals attending Sabbath-schools, 14,616; remain, not at Sabbath-schools, 23,055; assume one-half as receiving religious instruction at home or otherwise, 11,527; estimated number of untaught children, 11,528. With respect to the means to be adopted in carrying out the canvass, he thought that the existing division of the city into districts afforded a very good basis for their operations. In the most populous district of the town they had an organisation ready for the working out of the plan. If they divided the city into one hundred divisions—say sixteen to each—they would require as many canvassers as there were teachers. A long and interesting conversation followed, in which the Rev. Dr. Thomson, Messrs. Stott, Tawse, W. S. Sturrock, and others, took part, and resolutions were adopted to enter on the proposed canvass.

**RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.**—The Rev. S. Cox, late of Southsea, having accepted the invitation to become the pastor of the Baptist Church in this town, a social meeting was held in the chapel on the 9th inst., to give the reverend gentleman an opportunity of becoming acquainted with his new friends, of whom a goodly number were present. The meeting was addressed by the new pastor, — Standen, Esq., a deacon of the church at Southsea, Mr. C. Goldenut, formerly a deacon of the Independent Church, Ryde, and Mr. H. Colecutt. The new minister has commenced his labours with encouraging prospects. Already the place is too small to accommodate the people who would attend, and another pleasing feature is, that the minister's salary for the first year is guaranteed by subscription.

**NEW INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, BRIGHOUSE.**—This place was opened for Divine worship on Friday last. The Rev. E. Mellor, M.A., of Halifax, preached in the morning, the Rev. J. R. Campbell, M.A., of Horton-lane, in the evening. The attendance was large on both occasions, and besides the attractive power of the preachers, the musical parts of the service, in which Mrs. Sunderland and Miss Freeman took part, were super-excellent. The chapel is a beautiful and commanding structure. It will hold 900 people, and has spacious school-rooms attached. The cost of the buildings is 3,000*l.*, of which only 900*l.* has to be raised. The collections yesterday realised 77*l.* Between the services, a dinner was held in the school-room, which was largely attended, and formed a most pleasant part of the day's engagements. The Rev. H. Allon, of Irlington, preached on Sunday.

**NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.**—LECTURES TO WORKING MEN.—The Rev. F. Pollard, pastor of the Dock-street Independent Chapel, concluded his lectures to working men at the Town Hall on Sunday afternoon, where there was again a large and attentive congregation, amongst whom was the worshipful the mayor, J. N. Knapp, Esq. The lecture was replete with apposite and appealing sentiments, well understood and appreciated by the audience. The intimation, by the reverend gentleman, that he was induced by the good results of his lectures, to resolve that he would again address the working men of Newport, in some novel and allocative manner, shortly elicited long-continued applause. The series of lectures thus concluded, entitles Mr. Pollard to the esteem and appreciation of all classes of the town; for his aim has been as laudable as effective; and the example he has set one that, we hope, will not be lost sight of by other ministers. The subject of the lectures were: "The first Working Man;" "Work of the right sort;" "Work requiring immediate attention;" "Work which no Man can do;" "Work and Bad Wages;" "A Model Workman of the Olden Time."—*Bristol Mercury*.

**THE REV. G. P. DESPARD** is about to leave England as missionary to Patagonia. Mr. Despard has for a long time taken a warm interest in the mission, and exerted himself to obtain support for the Christian enterprise in this country.

**DR. TODD.**—The Rev. Dr. Todd, the beloved pastor of the First Congregational Church in Pittsfield, returned from his European tour in the steamer *Atlantic*. On Sunday, he preached to his own people, and gave a brief and interesting account of his journeyings. The *Sun* says that during his absence he had visited thirteen different Governments, and travelled a distance of twelve thousand miles, and he returned deeply impressed with the feeling that our own is the best and most happy Government on earth—that it has a great and glorious mission to fulfil—and he was ready to exclaim in the language of his text, "The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage." We presume that Dr. Todd's views and impressions gathered from his tour are to be given to the public through the press.—*New York Independent*.

### THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

There is every reason to believe that Her Majesty will open Parliament in person on the 31st.

The Address in the Commons will be moved by the Hon. G. H. C. Byng, M.P. for Tavistock, and seconded by Mr. W. E. Baxter, M.P. for Montrose.

The Earl of Derby has issued cards for a grand banquet to a large party of his political friends, on the 30th instant.

The Lord President of the Council, Earl Granville, as leader of the Ministerial party in the House of Lords, gives a full-dress banquet on the 30th, to which the following peers are invited: The Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Argyll, the Duke of Welling-



ton, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Clarendon, the Earl of Harrowby, Earl Spencer, the Earl of Bessborough, the Marquis of Breadalbane, Viscount Sydney, Lord Stanley of Alderley, Lord Panmure, Lord Foley, Lord Wodehouse, and the mover and seconder of the address upon the Royal Speech.

Viscount Palmerston gives a full-dress parliamentary banquet on the 30th inst. to the following: The Speaker of the House of Commons, Sir George Grey, the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, the Right Hon. M. T. Baines, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Right Hon. R. Vernon Smith, Sir Charles Wood, the Secretary for Ireland, the Right Hon. W. F. Cowper, Sir Benjamin Hall, the Right Hon. R. Lowe, the Right Hon. E. P. Bouverie, the Earl of Mulgrave, Lord Ernest Bruce, Lord Alfred Paget, Viscount Duncan, Viscount Drumlanrig, the Hon. H. Brand, Sir Maurice F. Berkeley, the Right Hon. G. H. Hayter, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, the Lord-Advocate, the Judge-Advocate, Mr. F. Peel, Mr. B. Osborne, Mr. Monseil, Mr. J. Wilson, and the mover and seconder of the address to the Royal Speech.

The *Daily News* revives a rumour we mentioned some time ago, that Lord John Russell is understood to have a new Reform Bill ready, and to be confident that it will reinstate him in the good graces of the people.

It is rumoured that a Government bill is in preparation to make directors of joint-stock companies more responsible on one point—if they pay dividends when there are no profits to divide, they will be answerable for the amount.

#### CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY ELECTION.

The seat vacant by the death of Mr. Goulburn will, in all probability, be contested by the Right Hon. Spencer H. Walpole, M.P. for Midhurst, and Home Secretary in Lord Derby's Ministry, and the Hon. George Denman, M.A., late fellow and present auditor of Trinity College. Mr. Walpole graduated in 1828 (Bishop Perry's year), but did not go out in honours. Mr. Denman took his degree in 1842, and was at the head of the classical Tripos, and subsequently fellow of Trinity College. Both candidates have issued their addresses. Mr. Walpole in accepting the "numerous and repeated applications both from resident and non-resident members of the Senate," says:—

It is almost needless for me to state my political opinions and principles, as they may be better judged of by my votes and my conduct than they can be by any professions of my own. But believing, as I do, that they are generally in accordance with those entertained by the University at large, few things would give me greater gratification than to find that its members should deem me worthy of the very high honour of representing them in Parliament.

Mr. Denman seems to be a moderate Whig. After stating that, if elected, he will go to the discharge of his duties unfettered by pledges, which he holds to be unconstitutional and mischievous, he thus propounds the articles of his political faith:—

I am a sincere member of the Church of England, and I consider it as the most important function of the University to educate the clergy and gentry, and through them all classes, in the principles of true religion.

I am entirely free from all ties of party and from party views. My opinions generally are Liberal, but Conservative. The ability and judgment with which the affairs of the country have been administered by the present Government in most trying times would render me desirous to give them my support.

On the question of war or peace, it would be impossible for me, at this moment, to express any opinion which the events of the next few weeks might not modify. But I may say, generally, that for the safety and honour of this country, and for the good of mankind, I earnestly hope that no efforts will be spared to prosecute the war with vigour until a solid and well secured peace be obtained. When such a peace has been concluded, I trust that the Government of this country will never be allowed to suffer our military and naval establishments to fall to the low ebb to which they had sunk at the commencement of the present war.

I should gladly support such measures as would best enable the University to carry out its own progressive improvement and aid its efficiency as a great instrument of liberal education. I am, however, sincerely attached to the system of a body of independent colleges, free from all unnecessary external control or interference.

I should be disposed to consider favourably any sound and well-considered plan for giving to the University a real and complete representative system.

Committees have been formed by the friends of both candidates. The Rev. Dr. Cartwell, Master of Christ's College, is the chairman of Mr. Denman's Cambridge Committee, and the Rev. F. Martin, M.A., Senior Fellow and Bursar of Trinity College, of Mr. Walpole's. The London Committee of the latter comprises Lord Lovaine, M.P., as chairman; Chief Baron Pollock, M.A.; the Lord Justice Turner, M.A.; Lord John Manners, M.P., M.A.; Viscount Newport, M.P., M.A.; Mr. Baron Alderson, M.A.; Mr. Justice Cresswell, M.A.; Mr. Baron Platt, M.A.; the Provost of Eton, &c. It is expected that Mr. Walpole will be the successful candidate, in anticipation of which it is already announced that Mr. S. Warren, Q.C., is to be the Conservative candidate to fill the vacancy caused by his retirement from Midhurst.

Major Sibthorp, eldest son of the late Colonel Sibthorp, was on Wednesday elected member for Lincoln, without opposition. In his hustings-address he said, that he was opposed to a "patched-up trumpery peace;" that he desired to see the Church-rate question settled, and the Income-tax re-adjusted; and, avowing himself "a Conservative, but no party man," he pledged himself to assist earnestly in removing all proved abuses in the administrative system of the country.

Lord Raynham, son of the late Member for Tam-

worth, now Marquis Townshend, has issued an address to the electors of Tamworth. His principles are those "entertained and advocated by his father." He is for diffusing education among the working classes, improving their social condition, and increasing their material comforts—he says nothing of political privileges.

The gap which has occurred in the representation of Hereford through the bankruptcy of Sir E. Price is likely to be repaired with unskilful hands. The Liberals are putting forth two candidates, Mr. R. Biddulph and Mr. G. Clive; the Tories wisely satisfy themselves with one, Mr. T. Evans, of Sutton Court, the bishop's secretary. In his address to the electors, he professes to be "firmly attached to the Protestant Church," but "trusts he will ever be found the friend of civil and religious liberty." Mr. Biddulph is not explicit enough on the Church-rate question: "I will now only say that I am, as formerly, anxious for its adjustment on a basis satisfactory to the Dissenters and to the maintenance of the Established Church." Mr. Clive's unique scheme runs thus: "There is an increasing dislike throughout the land to the present mode of buying Church-rates. It is obvious that a system both ineffectual and insupportable cannot last, and it seems to me not difficult so to legislate that while all shall be bound to contribute to the sustentation of edifices devoted to public worship, the contributions shall be applied according to the religious persuasion of the contributor."

It is expected that the election to supply the vacancy in the representation of this borough caused by Mr. Baines's acceptance of the Chancellorship of the Duchy of Lancaster will take place on Wednesday, the 6th of February. No opposition to the late member's re-election is anticipated.—*Leeds Mercury*.

Mr. Charles du Cane, of Braxted-park, has issued an address to the electors of the Northern Division of the county of Essex, offering himself as a candidate for their suffrages on the Conservative interest, on the retirement of Sir John Tyrell. Lieutenant-Colonel Brise has issued an address in which he expresses the belief that the resolutions lately passed at Colchester in favour of the Right Hon. W. B. B. do not convey the opinions of the majority of the electors. The debt of gratitude the electors owed him for his championship, in the first instance, he says, has been paid, and there is, he adds, a county man ready to come forward and fill his place.

## THE WAR.

### UNCONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE PEACE PROPOSITIONS.

When our last number appeared, we had information that Russia had met the Austrian proposals with counter-propositions, which Count Buol had declined to receive, intimating that the Austrian ambassador would at once be withdrawn from St. Petersburg, if the ultimatum was not accepted without delay. On Thursday the *Times* published the following telegraphic message from Vienna:—

Russia has unconditionally accepted the propositions of the Allies. This is authentic.

A little later, the *Morning Post* stated that the Government had received the following despatch from Sir Hamilton Seymour:—

The Russian Government accepts the Austrian proposals as a basis for negotiation.

The French Government posted the following placard at mid-day in the Paris Bourse:—

VIENNA, Jan. 16, 11.16 P.M.

The Minister of France to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Count Esterhazy writes to-day from St. Petersburg, that M. de Nesselrode has just notified to him the unconditional acceptance (*Acceptation pure et simple*) of the propositions contained in the ultimatum, which propositions are to serve as preliminaries of peace.

The *Monitor* of Friday says that on Wednesday Count Esterhazy sent word from St. Petersburg that Count Nesselrode had just notified to him the pure and simple acceptance of the ultimatum, the propositions of which, forwarded by Austria, are to serve as the preliminaries of peace.

Advices from Berlin represent that Russia acceded to the Esterhazy propositions in consequence of the earnest representations of Prussia, who, seeing the freedom of her ports menaced with blockade, threatened to close the land frontier and shut up Russia.

The news excited the greatest possible sensation, both in London and Paris. On the Stock Exchange there was an advance of three per cent in Consols, on the Bourse a proportionate rise.

We have various stories as to the effect produced in "high quarters" by the reception of the news. According to one report, the Emperor Napoleon was so much moved when he received the dispatch that he almost fainted. The Paris correspondent of *Le Nord* says that when Prince Jerome went to communicate the news of the Russian acceptance of the peace proposals to his daughter, the Princess Mathilde, that lady threw herself upon his neck, "weeping for joy;" also, that when the Emperor Napoleon read the despatch to the council of war, Admiral Lyons cried, "Sire, I don't exactly understand it; there must be some mistake!" Louis Napoleon smiled, and read it again. Then "the English began whispering busily amongst themselves." The Duke of Cambridge rose, saying that his mission at Paris was at an end, and that he had only to take leave of the Emperor and start that evening for London.

Louis Napoleon insisted that his Grace should remain three or four days. As to Prince Napoleon, after the despatch was read, his Royal Highness's remark was "Then Italy and Poland are sacrificed." The same writer remarks that lively differences have taken place in the council between the Duke of Cambridge and Prince Napoleon, the former warmly resisting any project of the re-establishment of Polish independence. [However interesting, this story has too much the flavour of fiction. Was the correspondent of *Le Nord* under the table?]

A letter from Vienna states that a grand ball was being held at the Imperial Court at the time the news arrived. Soon after entering the room with the Emperor, the Emperor said to the fashionable assembly, "We have received good news; Russia consents." At these words the sounds of the orchestra were forgotten, and "the Emperor going up to Baron de Bruck, complimented him in so marked a manner that everybody pressed in the same direction to express to our Emperor the sincere joy caused by a decision which must act most fortunately for his department. The Emperor, who has never looked so radiant, danced only one country dance with the Archduchess Hildegarde, wife of the Archduke Albert."

The French Journals are at issue with the London press with respect to the proposed armistice. The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* says: The French Journals, with the exception of the *Press* and *Siècle*, assume a tone on the subject of the peace propositions, which is far from being friendly, or even decent towards England. It is really serious to find the *Constitutionnel* talking of an armistice being as good as signed, and arguing that England is "in a hamoc bond" by the Austrian ultimatum, when it is notorious that, for reasons yet to be explained, many conditions stipulated for by Lord Clarendon as *non-negotiable* were not comprised in the propositions sent to St. Petersburg by Count Buol. "In our opinion," says the *Observateur*, "no incident can arise to prevent the Austrian ultimatum being regarded by all parties interested as possessing the definitive character of preliminaries of peace. And although those preliminaries may not at this moment be signed, we are convinced that none of the belligerent Powers can think of withdrawing from the obligations of an honourable engagement." This evening's *Post* has an article strongly advocating peace, attacking English journalists as being under the influence of prejudice and passion, and alleging that they do not truly represent public opinion in England. According to general opinion in the highest official circles here, the French Government has resolved to conclude a peace, and to make small account of the conditions which in England are considered essential to be introduced under the head of the Fifth Proposition.

It is reported in Paris that Count de Morny will be the representative of France at the coming "peace conference," which are likely to be held either at Brussels, Aix-la-Chapelle, or Frankfurt.

The Paris correspondent of the *Post* writes: "All I can hear with reference to the approaching negotiations for peace is, that the Governments of England and France are employed in signifying with the utmost precision the bases on which they will convene a peace congress. There is, or has been, some difficulty. But whether it be at Paris, or Vienna, or London, I am unable to say. Her Majesty's Government are acting with a caution which circumstances demand, and with that firmness which I think the country will applaud when the time comes for making passing events known. The Austrian Government continues to use its utmost efforts to clear away difficulties, and the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, finding the Allies firm, is gradually being brought to see the necessity of approaching peace in the spirit of the propositions. The latest official intelligence from Vienna, I am told, is more favourable than that which immediately followed the acceptance of the ultimatum. If all proceeds as favourably as the latest events would seem to indicate, an armistice will be proclaimed almost immediately."

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO COUNT ESTERHAZY.

The *Nord* publishes the following, as the text of the despatch which Count Buol addressed to Count Valentine Esterhazy, when he gave him the propositions for peace, to be taken by him to St. Petersburg as the ultimatum of the Allies:—

VIENNA, Dec. 16, 1855.

The words which your Excellency has had the honour to hear from the mouth of the Emperor himself, our august master, must have convinced you anew of the intentions which have invariably guided the policy of His Majesty in the different phases of the struggle which weighs so heavily upon Europe. Always faithful to those same principles, the Emperor would have deemed it a deficiency on his part towards his own people and towards Europe to let the present moment pass, when a superior Power bids a truce to the combatants, without attempting a supreme effort to open new paths to a peace which presents itself as the most urgent want of Europe. Convinced, on the one hand, of the so often reiterated declarations of the Emperor Alexander of his readiness to lend his hand to any peace that would not infringe upon his dignity or upon the honour of his country, His Imperial Majesty felt himself called upon to employ his best efforts to assure himself of the degree of reciprocity that those dispositions might meet with at the courts of France and Great Britain. His Majesty, therefore, deigned to charge me to sound the Cabinets of Paris and London on the subject. Although we found them imbued with the firm resolution not to lend themselves to the initiative of any overture for peace, nevertheless, to our great satisfaction, we found such dispositions in those Cabinets as to lead us to hope that they would not refuse to examine and accept conditions of a nature to offer all the guarantees of a permanent peace, and to come to a clear solution of the question which gave rise to the war.

Now, more, we think ourselves authorised to express



the hope that those Powers, while maintaining in full force the right of presenting such conditions of peace as they might deem suitable, would not the less be disposed to-day not to deviate from the principle established at the commencement of the struggle, not to seek any advantage to themselves, and to limit their pretensions to the sacrifices necessary to reassure Europe against the return of so deplorable a complication.

Encouraged by these indications, the Imperial Cabinet did not shrink from the task of making itself conscientiously acquainted with the situation of the moment, and to formulate a basis upon which, in its opinion, the edifice of a solid peace might rest. The four points already accepted by Russia appeared to us still to be the best ground to go upon. To assure the work of peace, however, and to avoid especially the reefs upon which the last conferences were shipwrecked, we deemed it indispensable to develop the four points (*principles*) in such guise as to make them conformable to the general interests of Europe, and to facilitate the final arrangement by a more precise definition.

The fruit of that labour is in the annexed document,\* which, when accepted by the belligerent Powers, will acquire the value of preliminaries of peace. The signing of these preliminaries would be immediately followed by a general armistice and by final negotiations.

This labour having been honoured by the approbation of his Majesty the Emperor, you are charged, M. le Comte, to present it for acceptance to the Court of Russia, and to urge it most pressing, to consider its contents, and to let us know its determination, to which we attach the highest importance, as soon as possible. If, as we hope, our propositions should be favourably received, we shall lose no time in warmly recommending their acceptance to the Courts of Paris and London, expressing the confidence which animates us that they will not exercise the right of presenting eventually to the negotiations special conditions, except in a European interest, and in such measure as not to offer serious obstacles to the re-establishment of peace.

We entreat the Court of Russia to examine calmly the propositions which we submit to it. We will not dwell upon the grave consequences which would ensue from a refusal to enter into the paths which we open a second time to effect an honourable reconciliation, a refusal which would entail upon itself the weight of an immense responsibility. We prefer leaving it to its wisdom to estimate all the chances.

We think that we are in this instance the interpreter of the wishes and of the real wants of Europe. It remains for us to make an appeal to the elevated sentiments of the Emperor Alexander, whose supreme determination will decide the fate of so many thousands of existences.

His Imperial Majesty will take, we entertain the confident hope, that decision which appears to us alone of a nature to respond to the real interests of his people and to the wants of humanity.

I am, &c.,  
COUNT BUOL.

#### THE NEXT CAMPAIGN.

The Paris correspondent of the *Nord* states M. de Seebach intimated to Count Nesselrode the intentions of the Allies in their next campaign, giving him a general idea of its scope and character. The correspondent adds some particulars as to the campaign, but the idea is more largely developed in the Paris correspondence of the *Times*, and deserves quotation as a curious piece of guess-work:—

"Austria, it is affirmed, was to have put her armies in motion, and to have joined us in the field in April next. The day the first answer—the non-acceptance one—of Russia was known, a diplomatic agent of Prussia, then at Vienna, left in hot haste for Berlin, and it was stated, on high authority, that when the delay accorded by Austria to Russia expired without the unconditional acceptance, a military convention between Austria, France, and England, was to have been signed. An independent kingdom of Poland was to have been erected, composed of Posen (for which the permission of Prussia would not have been asked), Galicia, and all that part of Poland now held by Russia. At the head of this new State an Austrian Archduke was to be placed, and, in addition to this inducement, Austria was to be indemnified with the annexation of the Danubian Principalities, perhaps with the nominal *suzeraineté* of the Sultan. The Italian Duchies were at first to have been given to Piedmont, but Lombardy was not to be touched. This, however, Austria would not listen to, and she resisted any change whatever in Italy. The campaign, for which England was well prepared, was to have comprised the complete destruction of Cronstadt, that of the Russian fleet, and the occupation of the provinces contiguous. We were to avoid repeating the great mistake of the first Napoleon; we would not have penetrated into Russia, and our headquarters for the next winter would have been Warsaw. If Russia still held out, and refused the conditions which success would have entitled us to expect, St. Petersburg would have been taken, Finland restored to Sweden in recompense for her co-operation, and Russia would be deprived for an incalculable period of the power to intimidate or attack the weakest State."

#### NEWS FROM THE CAMP.

The daily papers have letters from the camp to January 7. The tenor of the news is still the same; the men healthy and amusing themselves, hut building rapidly progressing to completion, and correspondents registering nothing but the changes of the thermometer. We make a few extracts:—

It is understood that, as soon as practicable, steps will be taken to blow up and completely destroy the ships which were sunk by the Russians at the time of the evacuation of the south side of Sebastopol. The masts of some of the line-of-battle ships remain visible above the water, just as when the vessels were first submerged.

I attribute the certain decrease of drunkenness to the

\* The propositions.

fact that most of the drunkards have been tried by court-martial, and consequently the chances are they have lost their field allowance, 6d. a day, with another 1d. a day, for the next six months or two years to come, in addition to which there is no more working pay.

There is very little doubt that almost every officer and soldier have followed the example of the Commander-in-Chief, as notified to this army in the general after-order of the 1st inst., and have given one day's pay to the Nightingale Fund, and many have also given one day's allowances.

A gale has been blowing from the south-west all day (Jan. 7) across the camp. The huts have withstood the high wind well, and sufficient warning was given to secure all the tents which remain on the ground against overthrow.

On Sunday (Jan. 6) a ball took place in the restaurant at the end of the Rue de Centre, in Little Kamiesch. These amusements are of frequent occurrence in real Kamiesch, but there, by means of the storekeepers' wives and their sisters, the ladies muster 100 to 150 strong. In the French bazaar, or Little Kamiesch, on the Woronzoff-road, they do not muster much more than a dozen. Tickets are ten francs each, and for refreshments you pay an exorbitant rate.

The 4th Division amateur theatricals come off to-night (Jan. 8), having been postponed from last Saturday. A lecture on astronomy is also to be given in the Engineer Camp, at six, by the Rev. Mr. Somerville, who is some relation of the authoress of that name. The 2nd Brigade 1st Division intend getting up private theatricals and a Brigade Club; the latter is to be something similar to the Guards' Club in camp—cigars and drinkables only are to be procured at it. The 56th Regiment has got a most comfortable reading-room, and on Saturday the officers of the 90th opened their billiard-room.

I have received letters from Kertch up to the 4th inst. Nothing noteworthy had occurred since the cavalry skirmish in which Captain Sherwood lost his life. The severe frost which set in on the night of the 17th of December, lasted up to the 3rd inst, when there was a slight thaw. The Contingent and other troops were well supplied with warm clothing, and set the cold at defiance. The Turks were contented, well behaved, and in excellent health. I lately saw, by the by, in a London newspaper, some very gross misstatements respecting the Contingent, which my information, derived from various sources, enables me to contradict. The troops were said to be still under canvas when the snow set in. The truth is, that they were huddled almost immediately on arrival, and long before the snow commenced. Rape, robbery, and plunder were said to be the order of the day, and what remains of Kertch was represented to be in rapid process of destruction at the hands of General Vivian's soldiery. These assertions are completely false.

The English Engineers have blown up the bottom of the centre dock, which is at top 236 feet long and 95 feet 4 inches wide, and at bottom 191 feet long and 40 feet wide. There were 13 charges in all—11 of 60lbs. each, and two of 300lbs. each—total 2,360lbs. of powder. The enemy took no notice of the explosion, nor had they been firing much lately from the north side.

Letters from Kinburn, of the 5th, state that there were rumours of a Russian attack; but although several reconnaissances were made in the direction of Otchakoff, no enemy's force could be discovered.

#### TURKISH MANAGEMENT IN ASIA.

A letter from Erzeroum in the *Times* throws some light upon the corruption and bungling of Turkish officials. It is dated Dec. 24, and says: It would be difficult, indeed, to imagine a man more unfit for a command than this same Muchir [Selim Pasha]; indolent, obstinate, stupid, sensual to the full limits of Turkish sensuality; and, to crown all, a coward. There is only one thing to be said in his favour—he is not much worse than his brother Pashas, but, on the contrary, a very fair specimen of his class. Fortunately, there are a few British officers here, and their presence and interference are doubtless valuable so far as they can keep the Pashas in check. But there are many more wanted—there can hardly be too many—and a General is wanted to support them. The whole system of administration here is corrupt beyond measure. It has a routine, too, which rides it like a nightmare, and, forcing one's way through its red-tapeism is like swimming through seaweed. Take one example out of a thousand. A young Magyar officer here in the Turkish service had twenty months' pay due. He applied for it to the Muchir, the Muchir referred him to the president of the Medjlis, or council; the president of the council passed him on to the commandant of artillery; the commandant of artillery to the sub-commandant; the sub-commandant to the chief of the staff; the chief of the staff again to the president, who at last recommended him to lay a memorial before the Medjlis, which being done, he, the chief Imaum, or high priest, and I know not how many other wiseacres, put their heads together over the intricate claim, and at last came to the conclusion that, without committing themselves, they might allow the memorialist six out of his twenty, or rather twenty-two months' pay, for two months more had elapsed in inquiring how to get his money. The balance remains an outstanding debt, which he may amuse himself in memorialising for at his leisure during the next two years, but let him manage as he may, there will be an arrear, and, if both parties live long enough, it will drag its slow length along till the millennium, when the Turks will most probably take advantage of the joyful occasion to cancel it altogether. Add to this the want of common honesty. When a soldier, for instance, is killed—and he is often killed, with three years' pay due—there is no regular way of transmitting his earnings to his relations. It becomes the booty of the officers of his regiment, a legitimate godsend. The same of course when he dies. I know a Muchir who is supposed to have made his fortune in this way by a series of skilful manoeuvres.

An English General, with an efficient staff, is

wanted here before next spring. Unless he be sent Erzeroum must fall. This is a catastrophe which the people of England ought not to contemplate with indifference. The fall of Erzeroum will do more to strengthen Russia's influence in the East than that of Sebastopol has done to weaken it, but also throw a territory as rich in natural resources as any in the world into Russian hands, as no mean counterpoise to what may be wrung from her in the West.

Accounts from Constantinople to the 3rd state that the campaign of the Turkish army in Imeritia was definitively abandoned, in order to cover Erzeroum. The troops of Omar Pasha had begun to arrive at Trebizond. General Mouravieff had called for reinforcements from Gumri, and fortified Kars, in order to render it the basis of his operations in the ensuing spring.

#### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

A letter of the 8th ult., from Tiflis, in a Russian journal, mentions the arrival there of General Williams and the other English officers taken at Kars. The public had received them with much kindness, and the Government was using all its means to enable them to pass their captivity in an agreeable manner. They occupy elegant apartments, and two carriages are at their disposal. On the previous Sunday they were present at a dramatic representation in the theatre of the town, sitting in the best boxes; and, says the letter, "their frequent applause proved their recognition of the good reception accorded them."

The existence of a Danish circular despatch, repudiating Denmark's solidarity with Sweden's treaty and promising to maintain strict neutrality in future, is denied by the official journal in Copenhagen.

Lord Panmure has obtained the sanction of the Crown to a measure, granting to soldiers the bounty money without the deduction of a single shilling on account of necessities. An entire kit will be given to the soldier at the public expense.

A cargo of Russian spoils has arrived at Woolwich; it includes seventy-five guns of various calibre, several mortars, and a number of church bells, some of the latter of great weight and large size; one of the bells weighs two tons.

The *Dido*, which has arrived from the Cape of Good Hope for Swansea, reports that on the second day after leaving Kondeklip outer roads, she was chased and fired at by a large frigate, supposed to be Russian, mounting about 60 guns. The *Dido* mounted the American ensign, when the frigate kept away after a large ship to the westward, and thick weather coming on, nothing could be seen, but the report of cannon was distinctly heard.

Serious complaints continue to be made against the Austrian soldiery in the Principalities, and lists of the crimes they have committed with impunity have been published. They present a shameful catalogue of brutality, very discreditable to the discipline of the Austrian troops and the good faith of the Government. Soldiers make nothing of cutting down landlords in payment for their scores, or slashing a civil officer intent on arresting them. In one place, they seized the archives for fuel and bedding; in another, they made a razzia among the farm-stock; in a third, a challenge from a Wallachian sentry is answered by a shot; in a fourth, warehouses are broken open and plundered; in a fifth, forests are cut down; in a sixth, street robberies are committed; and so on.

Two English men of war, serving as a vanguard to others, have arrived before Copenhagen returning to the Baltic to resume their cruise.

*Le Nord* of Wednesday publishes a supplement, to enable it to reprint Mr. Cobden's pamphlet, "the earnest talent and the loyal intentions of the writer imparting so great an importance to this brochure, that we believe it to be our duty to place it before the eyes of our readers unabridged."

The *Marseilles* Correspondent of the *Times* writes: "Orders have been received by the military authorities here not to ship any more *matériel* of war to the Crimea. Provisions, however, continue to be forwarded to the army."

The first formal expression of public opinion on the new aspect of the peace-or-war question was made on Monday evening, at Aylesbury. Mr. John Hamilton and Mr. Washington Wilks were invited to address a public meeting on the subject, and a very crowded assembly was held. A memorial to the Queen, expressing satisfaction at the renewal of negotiations, and praying Her Majesty to instruct her Ministers to meet the concessions of Russia with magnanimity and conciliation, was moved by Mr. Payne, seconded by Mr. John Gibbs, and supported by Mr. Hamilton. An amendment expressing distrust of Russia's sincerity, and urging unrelaxed preparations for another campaign, was moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. King—a gentleman connected with the local press. Mr. Wilks replied, and at a late hour, the memorial was carried by a majority of four or five to one. A vote of thanks to the chairman, and cheers for peace, brought the meeting to a triumphant termination.

The War Council at Paris has terminated. Early yesterday morning the Duke of Cambridge, General della Marmora, General Airey, Sir Harry Jones, Sir Edmund Lyons, and Admiral Dundas, arrived at Dover in the Admiralty steam yacht *Vivid*, Captain Smithett, and proceeded direct to London by the express mail train.

It was stated on Tuesday, at a special meeting of the Town-council of Cambridge respecting the alleged perilous condition of the Eastern Counties Railway between London and Cambridge, that in consequence of Colonel Wynn's report the receipts of the company for the last week were between 4,000*l.* and 5,000*l.* less than for the week previous.



## Foreign and Colonial.

## RUSSIA.

In a Paris letter, dated Wednesday, we read: It appears to have been on the 31st of December when Baron von Seebach was presented to the Emperor Alexander II. We are assured that this diplomatist remained with his Majesty more than two hours. He is said to have been enchanted with the pacific inclinations of the Czar, who does not allow his mind to be at all affected by the rumours brought to his notice by the partisans of the war. It is impossible not to perceive that since Baron von Seebach's mission, and the explanations he has given in the name of the French Emperor, the concessions have been considerable, and that when he left St. Petersburg the Baron was entitled to believe that, if France really desires peace, it will never be more easy to make it. Baron von Seebach has returned to Paris with unheard of despatch. No courier ever went over the ground in so short a time. Leaving St. Petersburg on the Tuesday he was in Paris on Sunday evening; although he stayed one whole day out of the five at Berlin.

A Paris letter in the *Indépendance Belge* contains the following: "Although the result M. Seebach had in view in his visit to St. Petersburg is now in a good way of being realised, some details respecting this diplomatist's interview with the Emperor Alexander will not perhaps be uninteresting. M. Seebach was extremely intimate with the Emperor Nicholas, and the Emperor Alexander witnessed when very young the friendship which his father maintained with that statesman. The letter was received at the palace immediately after his arrival at St. Petersburg, which city he had not visited for many years. On seeing him the Emperor exclaimed, 'What grave events have passed since we last saw each other!' and then threw himself into his visitor's arms. His Majesty for some time showed much emotion, and spoke of his father, his childhood, and of the calmer times when he had known M. Seebach. In speaking of his father, tears ran down his cheeks. But recovering himself with a dignity truly imperial, he observed, 'But we have to speak of more serious matters. Ah! you are not come hoping to weaken me?' The Emperor then expressed himself with great clearness upon the reasons which rendered the establishment of peace desirable, but also upon his duties as the Sovereign of Russia, and the difficulties and exigencies of the situation. 'My noblesse,' said he, 'are not prepared to bow the head. I do not deceive myself upon the gravity of the events in the Crimea, nor upon the possible results of an attack in the Baltic; but, believe me, whatever may be the situation, and whatever may be likely to arrive, it is much more difficult for me at this moment to make peace than to continue the war. I encounter in deciding for war ten times less resistance amongst my noblesse and my people.'

Highly respectable travellers who have lately arrived from Archangel state that the utmost activity prevails in the Russian dockyards in that port, in spite of the intense cold, and that no less than six heavy frigates and twenty steam gunboats are being built under cover, and will be ready by the spring. The demand for shipwrights and joiners is so great, that carpenters, furniture makers, and, indeed, every sort of artisan at all acquainted with the use of the axe, are sure of employment at high wages in the imperial dockyard.

According to advices from Warsaw, the doctors have pronounced the case of Prince Paskiewitch, cancer of the breast, to be hopelessly incurable. Baron Klotz, nevertheless, tries magnetic treatment. Prince Gortschakoff, Prince Woronzoff, M. Kisselef, and Count Krasinsky are severally mentioned each as his successor. Again, it is said, that the Archduke Constantine will take the Government as viceroy, but many think no vicerealty will be maintained.

By an Imperial Decree, dated the 8th, Prince Gortschakoff is removed from the command of the army in the Crimea, and General Luders, hitherto commander of the army of the South, is appointed in his stead.

It appears that Prince Gortschakoff, late Commander-in-Chief of the Russian forces in the Crimea, succeeds Prince Paskiewitch as Stadtholder (Viceroy) of Poland.

## THE AUSTRIAN CONCORDAT AND THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

The *Gazette de Milan*, the official organ of the Austrian Government in Lombardy, publishes under the title "Disputes Relative to the Concordat," an article formally condemning the Circular of the Archbishop of Milan, and indicating that the Government will take no more heed of this Circular than it deems convenient. In the same article the pretensions of the Archbishop on the subject of the press and education are very curtly repudiated. Marshal Radetzky, Governor-general of Lombardy, has also issued an ordinance which quite annuls the Episcopal decree.

A letter from Vienna, in the *German Gazette of Frankfurt*, says: "The Minister of Public Instruction has invited the bishops of the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom to retract the orders of censure which they had issued, and to await for the execution of the articles of the Concordat the decrees of the Government."

The Bohemian bishops, in one and the same pastoral letter, assure their flocks that the conclusion of the Concordat was a great triumph for all true Catholics, but the Bohemians are still incredulous. The "mixed marriage" question has already brought the Hungarian bishops into the field. A Catholic was about to marry a Protestant girl, and the latter wished to have the nuptial ceremony performed by a clergyman of her own Church. The Catholic priest, however, refused to give the bridegroom a certificate that

the bans had been regularly published, because he had received the following instructions from his bishop:—

By the recently concluded Concordat, all laws and ordinances which are opposed to the same are annulled, and, therefore, it cannot be doubted that a Catholic bridegroom can only be married in the manner prescribed by the Council of Trent, that is, in a Catholic Church. Should a Catholic bridegroom be induced by love to dare to enter into a matrimonial engagement in open contempt of the canonical laws, he would be guilty of an unlawful and impious (*illicitum et impium*) act, and the necessary conditions to a legal Catholic matrimonial union would be wanting.

The Paris correspondent of the *Post* (Second Edition) writes: "I am informed a very angry correspondence is taking place between the Vatican and the Government of Austria on the use which has been made of the late Concordat in Lombardy. The Austrian Government having committed the error of inviting the new Papal jurisdiction, is now seeking protest against its use in the Italian States of the Austrian empire."

## FRANCE.

In our last number, we briefly mentioned the presentation of medals to the army of the Crimea by the Duke of Cambridge, in front of the Tuileries, on the preceding day. The troops were 14,000 in number. His Royal Highness commenced by presenting the silver medal to the general and superior officers. It bore the effigy of Her Majesty, and was inscribed with the words, "Crimea: Victoria Regina à l'Armée Française." In order to avoid the great delay that would have arisen in presenting so many thousand men at the same time, the medals were sent the evening before to the different barracks, so that the men wore the medals at the time of the firing off. The ceremony of distribution took place amidst the sound of military music. The following is the address delivered by the Duke of Cambridge:—

Her Majesty the Queen of England has deigned to charge me with the office of presenting to the generals, officers, and rank and file of the French army, my brave and worthy comrades, these medals as a token of the cordial esteem and friendship which exists between the two nations, and of the admiration which Her Majesty and the English nation have felt in seeing the glorious feats of arms performed by the army of the East. It was in the great combats of the Alma, Inkermann, and Sebastopol that the alliance of the two nations was ratified by the two armies. God grant that this great alliance may always continue for the advantage and glory of both nations! As for myself, my dear comrades, the honour which has been conferred on me is the greater that I have served with you, and have seen with my own eyes your bravery, your great military qualities, and the devotedness with which you have supported so many fatigues and so many dangers. I sincerely thank the Emperor for his kindness in allowing me to have the honour of distributing these medals in his presence.

After the ceremony, the troops defiled, crying "Vive l'Empereur! Vive l'Impératrice! Vive la Reine Victoria! Vive le Duc de Cambridge!" while the bands played alternately English and French national airs.

The Minister of Finance has presented a financial report to the Emperor. He has ascertained that instead of an estimated deficit on the accounts for 1854 of 100,000,000 francs, the deficit will not exceed 70,000,000 francs. For the budget of 1855, a supplementary credit of 120,000,000 francs was required; but of this 52,000,000 francs were invested in public works, and 32,000,000 were paid in export bonuses. The new duties have yielded 33,000,000 francs; while the old have yielded 917,000,000 francs, or nearly a million more than they ever yielded under the reign of Louis Philippe. At the same time, the total of the direct taxes has increased. The actual deficit on 1855 is now estimated at about 50,000,000 francs. With regard to the loans—the first, for 250,000,000 francs, has been completely paid up; 476,000,000 francs have been paid on the loan of 500,000,000 francs; and 394,000,000 francs on the last loan of 780,000,000 francs. For the extraordinary wants of the year 1855, the Treasury has disposable the sum of 535,000,000 francs. M. Magne sums up as follows:—

The simple sketch of the principal financial events of the past year shows us a commercial activity without a parallel; unheard-of progress in consumption; two enormous loans paid up with the greatest regularity, and in a great measure before the payments were due; besides the loans, more than 135,000,000 francs, a sum which had never before been known to have been employed in the purchase of rentes, for the departments; the direct contributions paid by anticipation, and almost without expense; a well-balanced budget; the floating debt reduced; and all this despite the war, despite the crisis in the high price of food, despite the very considerable outlay, which accidental circumstances imposed upon us. What greater proof could be given of the vitality and richness of the country, and of all that France is capable of under a popular Government, with such resources wisely employed? Extravagance alone might be feared. Your Majesty will know how to obviate that danger by your high prudence, by firmly opposing the inconsiderate temptations of speculation, and by adjourning, in the interest of the enterprises already commenced, all those which do not bear the evident mark of urgency.

The *Moniteur* has published the revenue returns for 1855. In indirect taxes there is, as compared with 1854, a net increase of 103,619,000 francs, and as compared with 1853, an increase of 101,075,000 francs.

Considerable agitation prevails in the Quartier-Latin, in Paris; another professor, Dr. Havet, a medical lecturer, has been hissed by the students.

There have been recently a great many political arrests in the eastern departments. The population of Rochefort has been, for several days past, greatly excited, in consequence of judicial proceedings simultaneously taken in the Charente Inférieure and the

neighbouring departments—proceedings connected with the discovery of a plot against the safety of the State. Some of the prisoners have been sent to Niort, and others to Paris. Arrests relating to the same affair have been made at La Rochelle, Saintes, Saint Jean d'Angely, and Cognac. There have been some arrests at Amiens, but a local journal suggests that their importance has been exaggerated.

## ITALY.

The bill for the loan of thirty millions was adopted on the 16th by the Chamber of Deputies at Turin by a majority of 109 to 28, in spite of a strong opposition on the part of the Right.

The debate in the Piedmontese Chambers, which preceded the adoption of the new loan, was of a most spirited and interesting character. One of the best speeches was that of M. Buffa. Replying to some strictures from the Right, this honourable deputy remarked—"All Italy has applauded our participation in the war against Russia. The victory of the Tchernaya has been a *fiat* for us and for Italy. Has not the political importance of Piedmont in Europe since then increased, and is this the moment chosen for asking us where we are leading the country? We lead you to see our army honoured; our General-in-Chief called to the European Council of War; our King traversing Europe in triumph! (Sensation) Where do we lead you? We lead you—I ought rather to say (addressing the Right), we drag you (Laughter)—there whither eight centuries of noble traditions beckon us."

## SPAIN.

During the sitting of the Cortes on the 7th January, a body of the National Guard, on duty at the Palace of the Cortes, suddenly became mutinous. A sergeant, assuming command, ordered the men to load, and prevent the Deputies from leaving the Palace. The men obeyed. When the news reached the Cortes, General Infante, the President, went down and remonstrated with the mutineers; but he was received with insults. The men uttered seditious cries, slightly wounded an officer, and threatened to shoot a civil functionary. Marshal San Miguel next tried his influence with them, but he also failed. At length Espartero was sent for. He promised to quell the mutiny or lose his life. The simple measure of bringing up the main guard and forming a strong body of cavalry and artillery in front of the Palace effectually quelled the disturbance; many of the mutineers fled, others were arrested. It is stated that the outbreak was fomented by civilians, who supplied the soldiers with drink and ammunition.

The Cortes rejected, on the 17th instant, the vote of censure on the Ministry by a majority of 152 to 57. The parliamentary committee is favourable to the credit establishment proposed by some Spanish capitalists.

M. Olozaga, the Spanish Ambassador, has returned to Paris, from Madrid, and is said to have brought with him full powers to join the Western Alliance "eventually."

## AMERICA.

By advices from New York to the 5th instant, we have the additional information that the House of Representatives continued without a Speaker after more undecisive ballots, and still declined to receive the President's Message.

The President has sent to the Senate the ratification of a treaty with Nicaragua, concluded before Walker had seized Granada. It stipulates for the recognition of Nicaragua to the extent of all her claimed territory, including Mosquito, and regardless of the British protectorate. It also stipulates for the protection and fostering of American citizens' capital and enterprise in Nicaragua, covering, of course, any railroad or canal which may be projected. It was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

From Kansas we learn that, on the occasion of voting for the adoption of the free state constitution, much disorder prevailed. It is said that on the river there was some fighting, and at Leavenworth a collision occurred between the pro and the anti-slavery parties. The free state party of Kansas have nominated Charles Robinson for governor, N. Y. Roberts for lieutenant governor, and M. M. Delahay for Congress. The election was to take place on the 15th instant. There is a report from St. Louis to the effect that a mob of Missourians had sacked the printing-office of the *Territorial Reporter*, an administration paper.

From New Brunswick we hear that Her Majesty's assent to the prohibitory liquor law has been received, and the law will go into operation. No such impediment as has here arisen from the alleged interference of such a law with the rights of trade conferred by treaty with foreign countries, is anticipated at New Brunswick.—*New York Albion*.

## FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A new law has been enacted in Brunswick for the better observance of the Sabbath and other holy days. All labour out of doors, and open traffic in shops, factories, and the like, are forbidden, except in the case of bad weather, during hay or other harvest, when mowing, carrying, and so forth, may be carried on. All places of refreshment and noisy recreation must be closed until after forenoon Divine service. Local police are to look to this. Exemptions may be accorded in special cases, such as work in smelting furnaces, traffic with public vehicles, railways, the post, and the like. At Berlin, all shops must be closed, and no sale, or exposure of goods for sale, is permitted on Sundays and high festivals, until after evening Church service is concluded; that is, until about five P.M. Places of refreshment and recreation are open after morning service. Waggon, carts, and so forth, are



not permitted to circulate after nine A.M., and, on passing churches during Divine service, all carriages must move at a foot pace, and in some cases are forbidden to pass. But, at the same time, no impediments are placed in the way of the middling and lower classes seeking recreation at places of public resort after the hours of forenoon Divine service.

In the Bernese Oberland, especially on the St. Gothard route, the temperature is just now extraordinarily mild. The snow melts and falls in heavy avalanches.

M. Falloux will shortly publish his history of the two last assemblies in France—the Constituent and the Legislative.

The *Journal de Constantinople* states that "the Imperial firman which grants the right of constructing a canal from the Danube to the Black Sea to a company formed by some financiers of London, Paris, Vienna, and Constantinople was signed on the 4th January."

In the year 1790, it was computed that there were 5,000 Catholic ecclesiastics in Paris. According to the increase of the population of this city from that day to the present, the number of Catholic priests should now be 10,000, whereas the total number at the present time is only 800!

M. Campe, the bookseller of Hamburg, has been released by order of the Senate without bail.—*Hamburg Boersenhalle*.

Letters from the Havanna, received in Paris, report that the health of Mlle. Rachel was considerably improved.

The French flag was rehoisted on the consular establishment at San Francisco on the 30th of November, the differences with the local government which led the consul lately to strike it having been adjusted.

Queen Maria Christina is about to marry her second daughter to Prince del Drago, the heir to a considerable fortune.

The news lately received from the Sandwich Islands includes accounts of a terrible volcanic eruption on the island of Hawaii.

The *Times* publishes the following extraordinary story, on the authority of a correspondent whose name it withholds: "I have recently received the following account of an act of cruelty perpetrated by an ambassador from the Court of Persia, now resident in Russia. It appears that during the stay of the ambassador in Moscow a fire of charcoal, lighted by his servant in a stove of the room where his son and the servant slept, caused the death of the former by suffocation, while the latter narrowly escaped with his life. The ambassador, in order to avenge the death of his son, commanded the servant, to whose carelessness the accident was attributed, to be flayed alive. The Russian police, however, interfered, alleging that such a punishment could not be allowed in their country. Accordingly his Excellency ordered a box with air holes to be made, for the purpose of transporting his unfortunate servant to Persia, there to suffer the fearful death which even Russian civilization prohibited! The poor man is probably now on his way to Persia."

The following incident (says *Galignani*) marked the review of Tuesday: "At the moment when the Emperor was passing in front of the Zouaves of the Guard, the son of the cantinière of the regiment, a boy of about seven years of age, and already wearing the Zouave uniform, drew near the Emperor, and presented to him a fine bouquet of violets. His Majesty bent down from his horse, and touching the child with his hand on the cheek, he said, 'Thank you, my little friend; go and take your bouquet to the Empress,' pointing to the balcony where her Majesty was seated with her ladies, and then proceeded with his inspection. 'But how am I to get to the Empress?' said the little messenger, in great embarrassment. 'I will show you the way, my little man,' said a deep voice near him; and the boy, looking up, perceived that it was the tall drum-major of the Zouaves who had volunteered to serve him as guide. The tall man then took the boy gravely by the hand, and in a few minutes, thanks to the imperturbable repetition of 'By order of the Emperor, a bouquet for the Empress,' they soon arrived near her Majesty. The Empress accepted the flowers, embraced the little boy on each cheek, and asked him his name and those of his parents, appearing delighted with his present. At last, the child, after having been caressed and kissed by the ladies, returned with his tall comrade to the court below. It may be imagined that he was asked a thousand questions when he came down, but all his faculties seemed to be concentrated in the one fact of his interview, as his constant reply was—'The Empress embraced me.'"

#### A NATIVE AFRICAN CHIEF.

The *Friend of the Free State* (Cape of Good Hope) reports an interview between the President, J. N. Boshoff, Esq., and the Basuto Chief Moshesh. His Excellency Sir George Grey was present. Moshesh was taken to task for not putting down the thieves of his nation: he expressed himself willing to do so, but unable, and seemed anxious to evade the question. After the President had a long palaver with the Chief, Sir George Grey said: "It is impossible that a civilised nation can allow a nation of thieves to remain on their boundary. The President and I are ready to put them down. I would be glad to see you more cordial to accept the President's offers than you have seemed to be; and, as I am now going away for a considerable time, I should be glad to be certain that you would devise some plan for the future. In such a plan I will assist as far as the Cape colonial boundary is concerned. It must be greatly owing to your own energy that you have raised yourself to the position you now hold, and I would advise you to trust to that energy in future, and not to

bad advisers. I trust that, before I leave, you will give some proofs that you have put down stealing, and allow your tribe to prosper. I am sure the President's remarks will be appreciated; I have been particularly struck with their justness. I hope before I leave that you will promise to put an end to such practices as those that have been carried on." Moshesh: "I cannot bind myself to say that there will be no more stealing; thieves do not tell me when they come in or go out. Did I not at the meeting with Ford, at Sefali's, tell my people they must not even steal a goat? You must give me time."

#### REFORMATORY CONFERENCE.

A Conference will be shortly held in London for the establishment of a General Association, as a centre of information upon the important subject of the prevention of juvenile crime, and the reformation of young criminals. The Conference will probably be interesting to all who are engaged in one or other of the hundred reformatory, refuges, industrial schools, and other similar institutions, in Great Britain and Ireland, and we are informed that they will be invited to deliberate on this occasion by men who have had the largest experience on the subject. Among these will be found the Earl of Shaftesbury, Mr. R. Hanbury, junior, representing "The Boys' Refuge" (for 100 boys); Dr. Guthrie and Dr. Bell, from Edinburgh; Mr. Playfair, from the House of Refuge in Glasgow (for 240 inmates, soon to be increased to 400); Sheriff Watson and Mr. Thomson, from the Aberdeen Refuge; Mr. Bowker, from that of Brixton; Lord H. Cholmondeley, from the Hampshire Reformatory; Mr. Bowyer, from the New-road Reformatory (for 100 inmates); Mr. Wright, from the Institution at Brixton; and Mr. Dunscombe, from the Cork Refuge; Mr. Gent, from the Ragged School Union (numbering 136 schools in London); Mr. Macgregor, from the Shoe-black Societies (employing 130 boys); Mr. Maxwell, from the Girls' Refuge, Lisson-street (for thirty-six girls); Mr. Oliphant, from the Carlisle Reformatory; and Mr. Mountstephen, from the Field-lane Refuge, where accommodation is provided for 150 inmates.

#### MR. BRIGHT ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

A lecture on Capital Punishment at Rochdale, on Friday, elicited a speech on the same subject from Mr. Bright, who presided at the delivery of the lecture. Mr. Bright first referred to the old times, when hanging was inflicted for many crimes, and pointed out that exactly the same arguments were used to defend capital punishment then as now, when it is more restricted. He argued that we all become used to this as we do to other wrongs, and that judges and those concerned in the law were so familiar with the present state of things that they could not judge the question fairly. He referred to Mr. Wooler's case—which resulted in a just acquittal, after great expense to the prisoner—and intimated that if Mr. Wooler had been a poor man, he would probably have been convicted and hanged; for counsel, and judges, and home-secretaries, though generally honest and well-intentioned, were but human, and were liable to many mistakes.

I have gone to many home secretaries in cases of this nature (said Mr. Bright), and in many instances I have found that the convict has had his sentence commuted, and not been hanged; while often I have found cases, as far as I could judge, not near so bad, in which the punishment had been inflicted. I must say I have found all the home secretaries I ever applied to willing to listen, and anxious, I think, to judge rightly; and although, as you know, I am no friend politically, to the present Prime Minister, yet I will say when he was Home Secretary I found him on more than one occasion very willing to listen, and, in case of anything being stated that he thought would allow him so to do, to remit the extreme punishment of the law.

Mr. Bright went on to say:—

One argument, and a most potent one in convincing me that hanging was a blunder, is this, and I ask your attention to it for one moment. What we all want is, to make human life as secure as possible, and there are two modes by which it is proposed to effect this. One is by punishment by the law—the law hopes to deter and frighten men. The other is by inculcating everywhere a deep reverence for human life. Does anybody in England believe that human life is not more secure in England now than it was 100 or 200 years ago, when there was far more hanging than there is now? The reason why we feel more secure is because we know there is a less reckless, savage, and brutal character among classes now than there was then; that there is more politeness, gentleness, courtesy, benevolence, and kindness of every description now than at former periods. There is a greater belief arising from religious knowledge, that human life is a thing of infinite estimation in the eyes of the Creator, and it is this greater reverence for it which is the great and, I hope, the growing security for human life. I will assume, but I doubt it, that the practice of hanging men has the effect of deterring somebody, in some place, at some time, in some degree, from the crime of murder. How many do we save by reason of hanging, and how many are saved by reason of an increased reverence for human life? Don't you think that the reverence for human life, that exists more or less in everybody, is a thousand times more effective in preventing murder than the fear of the gallows? But if it should happen that the system of hanging, however it may deter to some small extent, does, to a great extent diminish the reverence for human life—don't you think that what it does in deterring is far less than what it does in destroying, by diminishing the sanctity of human life? I am perfectly certain—I know from my own feelings and from all human history, that participation in horror of any kind familiarises the mind to it. Don't we know, that when the news of the battle of the Alma was received, people shuddered when they read the account of the losses of that short but bloody battle?

Don't you know that now we can read of losses far greater without being affected by them? It is so with everything of the kind, and so with public executions. That man who murdered his master in Drury-lane some time ago was a case in point. The very day that man was apprehended, I happened to be at the police-office in Westminster, where I went with a gentleman, now a member of the House of Commons, to give notice of a person who had run away with 200*l.* or 300*l.* belonging to him. In the office there was a policeman more intelligent than many of that class, who addressed me by name. I asked, "How do you know me?" "I know you very well," said he; "have you never seen me in the lobby of the House of Commons?" "Yes, I recollect you now," I said, adding, "You seem to have had some very bad cases latterly: I see a lad has committed a murder." He said, "Ay, Sir, as long as there's hanging there will be murders." I thought that this would have been excellent for a judge, and I wanted to know how he got to that conclusion. "They don't care about it," he said. "Why, what did Weeks do (that was the name of the man who committed the murder)? He went to see a man hanged at Newgate in the morning. He ran at half-past nine o'clock the same morning to see a woman hanged at Horseferry-lane; and what he said was this: 'Why, it's nothing—it's but a kick, and it's over in a minute.' And the effect the sight of an execution had upon that unhappy individual was in degree the same that is produced on hundreds of thousands; and I am perfectly certain if I could conceive myself to be all the people, and therefore subject to all the danger people would run from the abolition of capital punishment, I would abolish the punishment at once, and feel life and property and everything more safe by reason of the abandonment of this practice. Besides, let us look for one moment only and consider what the taking of human life is, and unless it could be demonstrated, beyond all doubt, to be absolutely necessary, I think we should shrink from taking life. I don't deny that society has the right and is permitted by the Deity to do anything absolutely necessary for its own safety; but all the books, reasoning, philosophy—all we gather from Scripture, so far as this new dispensation is concerned, goes to this conclusion—that whatever is savage, barbarous, or wanton in private practice, in legislation, or law, is not calculated to produce a proper state of mind."

#### THE STATE CHURCH QUESTION IN GENEVA.

In an interesting paper published in the *Liberator* for January on the above subject, comprising an historical *resumé*, with appropriate comment, it appears that the new Protestant Canton now contains 27,000 Catholics to 34,000 Protestants, and that the Catholic, though not the national, is, in fact, the privileged religion. For example:—The people elect the Protestant clergy, and the Consistory (a body elected by universal suffrage) determines the mode of election; and this, subject to the approbation of the Council of State; the Catholic priest is nominated by the ecclesiastical superior, subject to a mere arrangement with the civil power. In the Protestant Church the State is supreme in the suspension and revocation of the clergy, and in all parochial arrangements. In the Catholic Church, the ecclesiastical superior can suspend and dismiss whom he will, and make such parochial arrangements as he may deem proper. In the Protestant Church the State has seized its revenues; and its rights are what the State chooses to assign to it; in the Catholic Church rights and revenues are defined by treaty, and protected by a foreign Power. The ministers of the one have been reduced to the position of State functionaries; the ministers of the other abide an independent body corporate; and the Church, nominally weak, is, in reality, strong.

But, for its future, as a State Church, it is in this very strength that we find its weakness. Geneva will discover that the only price at which she can purchase the abrogation of an odious foreign interference, will be, by making Protestant domination (the occasion of the protectorate) cease, so that Protestant and Catholic shall be alike free. It is this that makes the separation no longer a question of mere religious principle, but also of political independence. Geneva, as a republic, knows no distinctions between citizens; but a State Church creates them, be it Protestant or Catholic. This has been felt; and, in this light, the subject has been already discussed in the national councils. The question has been referred to a committee who presented a report, which, for its logical acuteness, its faith in truth, and its statesmanlike mastery of a complicated and delicate question, deserves to be known beyond the limits of the country to whose interests it most specially refers. "Religion is an affair of individuals," it says, "for it is the great affairs of souls; . . . a Government is an abstraction—a thing of reason—a body politic; as such, it can have no religion, because, in the world of collective souls, it has no existence." It then contends that a State Church is a contradiction in a democratic republic, and, descending from the high ground of principle to the special circumstances of its own State, shows that the principle, "the State pays no religion, and knows, on religious grounds, no difference between citizens," is the only one which can secure to Geneva her independence, and fuse her population into a political unity. A majority of nineteen, it is true, decided that the project should not become law; but, this notwithstanding, many in Geneva believe that on that day they heard the knell of their religious establishments, and that these virtually dead, are now but awaiting fitting interment.

To sum up. We have found a people, among whom the separation of Church and State has struck its roots, as an idea. We have found a people, among whom the possibility of the support of a free Church is daily demonstrated by the existence of a flourishing Dissent. We have seen a National Church stripped of its independence and prestige, and weakened in moral power, by the encroachments of the State, and the growth of a powerful rival. We have seen that rival weak in her very strength. We have seen dissent holding to the separation in the interest of religion; democracy,—for the sake of its own self-realisation—the statesman in the interest of national independence; and shall it be



said that we are going too far in detecting in all this, signs that "in the darkness, on the face of the deep," a spirit is moving; preparing the chaotic mass for the approaching instant whence a Divine voice shall cry, "Let there be light!"

[We gladly take the present opportunity of commending the monthly journal of the Society for the Liberation of Religion to the attention of our readers. Though published at the low price of twopence, it is anything but a dry record of the proceedings of that association, and possesses a literary as well as ecclesiastical interest. United to pithy comments upon the passing events of the day, are papers of more enduring consequence, and much useful and detailed information on Church-rates, burial fees, &c. The following varied list of contents for the January number will more than justify our commendations: Our Monthly Note Book; Church Rates in the Parishes; Working of the Burial Acts; The State-Church Question, and the Canton and Republic of Geneva; Meeting of the Liberation of Religion Society in London; the New Campaign; Qualify, Qualify, Qualify; the Law-Church; Irish Rëgium Donum; the County Register; Votes on Ecclesiastical Questions in the Session of 1855—No. 3; Religious Liberties in the Counties; Sandries; the Church Journals on Church Dissensions.]

### Postscript.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23.

#### SUSPENSION OF HOSTILITIES BY RUSSIA.

(From the *Morning Post*.)

We believe that authentic intelligence has been received from St. Petersburg that, on the 18th instant, the Emperor despatched an order to the Russian generals in the Crimea to suspend hostilities.

This important public step argues the sincerity of Russia's desire for peace—a desire which we hope may soon be gratified on complete and sufficient conditions. At the same time, it is only right to observe that the acceptance by Russia of the Austrian ultimatum does not justify us in yet suspending hostilities. We must ourselves sign preliminaries of peace before we can abstain from acts of war. It is also but fair to remark that, at the present season of the year, an order to suspend hostilities, where none can go forward, amounts to a mere formality. As such, however, it is indicative of the anxiety which no doubt exists at St. Petersburg to commit us to a pacific course.

The same journal has the following respecting the negotiations: "The acceptance of the Austrian ultimatum by Russia was only notified by telegraph last Thursday, yet actually the newspapers and the public are galloping to a thousand-and-one conclusions which a moment's reflection would show to be premature. In the very first place, the Cabinet of Vienna will have to receive its official despatches from Count Esterhazy, communicating the particulars of the Russian acceptance; it will then have to address the Cabinets of Paris and London, informing them of what has occurred; upon that, they will have to deliberate and come to a resolution. But as the despatches from Austria, above indicated, can hardly be received for two or three days to come, it is evident that some moderate degree of patience must be exercised by the public, if they would avoid falling into error."

#### THE PEACE QUESTION.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* of the 21st inst. has the following: "In consequence of the general desire of Europe, the Russian Government has not wished to delay the work of conciliation by entering into negotiations of detail, trusting that her moderation will be duly appreciated."

The French papers reputed to be connected with the Government assume that the four first of the Esterhazy propositions express all that France and England demand of Russia, and assure their readers that the Allies, or at any rate France, will not make use of the fifth point to raise difficulties about Bomarsund. The *Constitutionnel* of yesterday is very positive on this point, and says that "whatever relative importance the fifth proposition may have, it cannot seriously embarrass a negotiation so serious as the present." It then proceeds to show that Bomarsund having nothing to do with the Eastern question, could not have been properly mentioned in an ultimatum designed to terminate a war begun and carried on with reference to that as an end. The *Presse* considers an armistice as imminent, and the *Débats* thinks peace is as good as made. The *Siccle*, so far from appearing moved by the reproaches addressed to its incredulity by its contemporaries, now asserts that the object of the war has not been obtained—that a peace is therefore premature; finally, it boldly advocates a continuation of hostilities. *La Presse*, of Monday evening, describes the existing "situation" as follows: "Preliminaries of peace are in existence; they have been accepted by Russia, and it only remains, to give them full value, that the signature of the Powers interested be attached. This signature, as we have already said,

can only be a matter of form. No further discussion can take place upon propositions perfectly defined and drawn out. The Austrian propositions will be transcribed word for word, and recorded in a special protocol, at the foot of which the signatures of all the plenipotentiaries will be affixed. A general armistice will immediately follow, and the definitive negotiations will be opened immediately afterwards. Russia demands, it appears, that the Congress assemble either in a small German capital or at Paris. A previous question, that of the admission of Prussia, will, however, be decided before the opening of the congress."

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* writes: "The precise points gained by M. Seebach, in his recent mission to St. Petersburg, are in doubt; but it appears that he has established some claim upon the Emperor's gratitude, as his Majesty has conferred on him the Grand Cordon of the Legion of Honour. It is said—but *not* *bel*—that he has reconciled the Czar to some personal—very personal—projects of the Emperor of the French. It is rumoured that orders have been given to stop embarkations at Marseilles, but I believe the assertion to be premature."

We learn from Vienna that the Austrian Government has steadfastly set its face against a continuation of the war. All the journals have been ordered to express their confidence that the negotiations will lead to a treaty. The *Donau*, for expressing doubts of their successful termination, has been seized and confiscated.

#### THE RELICS OF THE KARS ARMY.

The *Daily News* publishes some interesting correspondence from Erzeroum down to Dec. 25, from which we extract the following:—

All persons are unanimous in their appreciation of the humanity displayed by General Mouravieff, as well towards the English General and his officers as towards the Turks. All the officers have been allowed to keep their swords, have been treated most kindly, and complimented on the brave defence on the 29th of September. They received permission to remove their property, and to take with them what servants they required. Some of the Armenians in Kars, to gratify the Russians, and to display their sympathy with the Russian cause, put on Georgian costumes, obtained from the victims of the 29th of September. The commandant summoned these wretches to his presence, and ordered them to be bastinadoed. All the officers and soldiers who have returned from Kars speak in terms of the highest gratitude of General Williams, who has done so much for them, both before and after the capture of Kars.

Provisions are abundant in Kars, and are sent in from all the neighbouring villages. The sick in the hospitals are quickly recovering their health, in consequence of the medical attendance and nourishment supplied by the Russian authorities.

We have received letters from General Williams and his staff, now at Alexandropol. They are dated the 3rd inst. The Russian authorities pay the greatest respect and attention to their illustrious prisoners. An officer of the family of Souvaroff is entrusted with the duty of remaining constantly with them, and paying attention to all their wants and wishes. They may almost look upon themselves rather as visitors than prisoners. On the 5th they will depart for Tiflis, on their way to Moscow. The orders of the Emperor as to their ultimate destination had not arrived. The health of our friends was excellent.

The authorities are employed here in storing up provisions, and preparing quarters for troops. The regular forces here may be reckoned at about 13,000 men, and 500 guns. The Redifs who arrive from Kars cannot be included in the number, owing to the weak state of their health. It will require at least four months' rest to make them fit for actual service.

Several medical officers have arrived here from Kars, in a deplorable condition, wounded, ragged, and utterly exhausted. They were obliged to make the journey on foot. It is to be hoped that the Government will in some way or other compensate these gentlemen for their arduous services, and the spirit of abnegation they have displayed. They report that General Mouravieff, with almost his whole force, has retired to Alexandropol, and has caused the pieces of artillery and the ammunition delivered up after the capitulation to be taken to the same place. They add that the larger guns have been made useless, and that only four guns are left in the citadel, which is occupied by a small garrison commanded by a colonel.

A Turkish pasha (Hassan Pasha) has landed at Trebizond on his way here, with a commission to inquire into the conduct of Selim Pasha and the reasons for the capitulation of Kars. During the past week the weather has been very severe. Many animals and travellers in the caravans have perished on the mountains. Many of the redifs on their way from Kars being unable, weak as they were, to continue their journey, were buried in the snow, both in Sohanli Dag and on the mountains of Allah Ueckbar, near Penek. The snow has been more than three feet deep in this city, and the thermometer indicated fourteen degrees below zero (Réaumur).

A letter from Constantinople in the *Débats* states that General Kmety is about to leave that city in order to assume an important command at Erzeroum, and that General Colman will be chief of the staff at the same place. General Guyon is also to have a command in the army of Asia.

#### RETIREMENT OF MR. MACAULAY FROM PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Macaulay has issued an address to his constituents in Edinburgh, dated January 19, in which he says that the experience of the last two years has convinced him that he cannot reasonably expect to be

ever again capable of performing, even in an imperfect manner, those duties which the public has a right to expect from every member of the House of Commons. He continues:—

You, meanwhile, have borne with me in a manner which entitles you to my warmest gratitude. Had even a small number of my constituents hinted to me a wish that I would vacate my seat, I should have thought it my duty to comply with that wish. But from not one single elector have I ever received a line of reproach or complaint. If I were disposed to abuse your generosity and delicacy, I might, perhaps, continue to bear the honourable title of Member for Edinburgh till the dissolution of the Parliament; but I feel that by trespassing longer on your indulgence I should prove myself unworthy of it. I have, therefore, determined to dissolve our connexion, and put it in your power to choose a better servant than I have been.

I have applied to the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds, and I have every reason to believe that the new writ will issue on the first day of the approaching session. This notice will, I trust, be long enough to enable you to make a thoroughly satisfactory choice.

And now, my friends, with sincere thanks for all your kindness, and with fervent wishes for the peace, honour, and prosperity of your noble city, I for the last time bid you farewell.

London, Jan. 19.

T. B. MACAULAY.

The Earl of Clarendon had an audience of Her Majesty yesterday afternoon.

Mr. J. Clementson, who having held the office of Deputy-Serjeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons for fifty years, is well known to the members of the Legislature, died, on Sunday last, at his residence, Felcourt Lodge, Torquay.

A meeting of railway shareholders took place yesterday at the London Tavern, Mr. Mallins presiding, when a series of resolutions were passed for organizing an association to watch their general interests. The object is to bring into play a combined influence sufficient to arrest extravagant expenditure, reckless management, and mischievous legislation.

Miss Caroline Luttrell, second daughter of Colonel Luttrell, of Kilve Court, Somerset, has just died from the shock and exhaustion caused by a severe surface burn, occasioned by accidentally setting fire to her dress while lighting the tapers on a Christmas-tree. She was in her twenty-fifth year.

The constituency of Midhurst has been addressed by Mr. Warren, Q.C., who informs the electors that he offers himself as a successor of Mr. Walpole. Mr. Warren is sparing of professions, promising nothing more definite than a faithful and diligent discharge of public duty as a member of the Legislature, in critical and eventful times, and upon watchfully attending to local interests.

A county meeting at Chelmsford resolved, on Monday, in favour of establishing a reformatory school for the county of Essex. A committee was appointed to receive the subscriptions, and take the necessary steps for the establishment of such an institution. A petition to the Legislature was also adopted, praying that the propriety of passing a general measure on the subject of reformatory schools might be taken into immediate consideration.

It is currently reported that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe is to be recalled, and that Sir Henry Bulwer, who has worthily represented his country at Madrid, Florence, and Washington, is to succeed him as Ambassador to the Porte.—*Leeds Mercury*.

The Polytechnique School, Paris, which has given so much trouble of late to people in authority, has been dissolved, and will be re-organized upon quite a new system. For the future it is to be purely a military establishment.

Additional troops from the Crimea are about to return to France.

According to last night's *Gazette*, "The Queen has been pleased to constitute the Colony of Western Australia to be a bishop's see and diocese, to be called the Bishopric of Perth, and to appoint the Venerable Matthew B. Hale, Archdeacon of Adelaide, to be ordained and consecrated bishop of the said see."

The same *Gazette* states that Dr. Rae having claimed the reward of 10,000*l.* offered by Government, to any party or parties who, in the judgment of the Board of Admiralty, should, by virtue of his or their efforts, first succeed in ascertaining "the fate of Sir John Franklin and his companions;" the Lord's Commissioners of the Admiralty "will proceed within three months from the date hereof to adjudicate on such claim; and all persons who, by virtue of such proclamation, deem themselves entitled to the whole or any part of the reward in question must prefer their claims within such time, after the expiration of which no claim will be entertained."

#### MARK-LANE, THIS DAY.

Most of the supply of English wheat on sale here, to-day, was the refuse of Monday. The amount of business doing in most kinds was limited, at Monday's decline in the quotations. The condition of the samples was very inferior. There was very little inquiry for foreign wheat, the value of which was almost nominal. In floating cargoes, very little was doing. Barley and malt were very dull, but not cheaper. There was a moderate sale for oats, at full prices. Beans, peas, and flour were exceedingly heavy.

#### ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.

English: Wheat, 750. Barley, 40. Malt, 1,420. Oats 1,130. Flour, 960.  
Irish: Oats, 6,350.  
Foreign: Wheat, 660. Oats, 410. Flour, 1,690 sacks



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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Henry More."—As "an old fellow-student," would he not do better to address the party referred to, privately in the first instance?

"Pierre Blanc," in a very testy letter, finds fault with us because in our last week's Summary we thus wrote: "David d'Angers the sculptor, who remained to the last an anti-Bonapartist," &c. He asks, "Why don't you say that David d'Angers was not a sculptor, but the greatest living sculptor of France—and that he remained to the last a staunch Republican?" If P. B. were not blind with excess of party spirit, he would see, without needing to be reminded of it by us, that our epithet and information were pertinent to the context, whereas that which he suggests would have been quite impertinent. No one in this country cares a button to know what was David's political faith—but it is a matter of some interest to be told that vast numbers of the elite of society attended the funeral of an anti-Bonapartist, or, in other words, testified their independence of the Imperial Court.

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## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1866.

## SUMMARY.

LAST Thursday, the news of the unconditional acceptance of the Austrian propositions by the Emperor of Russia came upon the metropolis like a thunderclap. Great was the excitement—universal the gladness in every place of public resort. The funds, our monetary barometer, leaped up three per cent; and, although a spirit of distrust and caution has set in, as much because we have to await the slow results of diplomatic conference as for any other cause, and that people will talk about the topics that daily journalism writes upon, there is no good reason for concluding that the prospect of peace that appears upon the horizon is a mere mirage. The official organ of the Russian Government, with that reserve which might be expected at so grave a crisis, announces that the Czar, at the general desire of Europe, is about entering upon negotiations for peace, while the order sent to Prince Gortschakoff to suspend hostilities, may be regarded as an indication of his good faith.

The exact situation at the present moment appears to be as follows: Russia has accepted the preliminaries of peace as sketched out by Austria, which include the following in addition to the well-known four articles: "The belligerent Powers reserve to themselves the right which appertains to them of producing in an European interest special conditions over and above the four guarantees." Upon this point it is understood there is some difference; the Allies wishing to include in it specific arrangements for establishing French and English Consuls in the Black Sea, and for preventing the rebuilding of the Bomarsund fortress—points upon which our Government lays far greater stress than that of the French Emperor. According to the *Morning Post*, the Western Powers will require the assent of Russia to these special guarantees, as defined by them, ere they will consent to sign the preliminaries of peace. According to a high diplomatic authority, "As the general and definitive treaty of peace is only the development and solemn sanction of the preliminaries, it is not necessary to say that it neither can nor ought to contain anything which will change the tense or bearing of them. In a word, the preliminaries, as they have been accepted by Russia, must justly

be considered as the keystone of the new edifice of peace. The signature of preliminaries of peace is always followed by an armistice and the suspension of hostilities." It is to be borne in mind that the preliminaries are not yet signed by the allied Cabinets. From the tone of the Paris press, it is doubtful whether Russia will accept the special guarantees, and if the Emperor Napoleon will be disposed to insist very strenuously upon them as a *sine qua non*. The semi-official French papers accuse the London journals of raising up needless difficulties in the way of peace, and insisting on conditions that form no proper part of the Eastern question on which the war was commenced; while according to the reports of metropolitan papers hostile to the present Government, a majority of Lord Palmerston's colleagues sympathise with the French view of the subject.

May not these rumours account for the extravagant and pointed eulogies which the *Times* has, during the last few days, thought proper to lavish upon the Premier, pointing him out as "the one man" in whom the country trusts, and the only statesman adequately qualified to represent British interests in the approaching Peace Congress? There is no probability of the diplomatic gathering being summoned to meet at Vienna, as heretofore. Some more neutral position, such as Brussels, Frankfort, or Aix-la-Chapelle, is more likely to be the scene of its consultations, which, in spite of the protests of our daily journals, will no doubt be protracted beyond all ordinary patience. It is very doubtful whether the preliminaries of peace will be signed, if agreed to at all, by the time Parliament meets next week, so as to allow of a congratulatory allusion in the Speech from the Throne.

Whatever the course or prospects of negotiations for peace, there is not to be oblivion for failure in war. Mr. Disraeli's organ exults in the opportunity of Parliamentary interrogation; and the Administrative Reform Association convenes a City meeting, for Saturday next, on the fall of Kars. Perhaps the best means of keeping our diplomats to the work of restoring tranquillity to Europe, with as little as possible of delay and *finesse*, would be a strict investigation into the negligences or treacheries by which they have made the highest efforts of soldiery of none effect. But peace or no peace, let there be no taking refuge in official reserve, and no amnesty for proved offences.

On the day that brought us intelligence of Russia's great concession, the Waterloo Gallery in Apsley House was re-opened—for the celebration, not of a martial anniversary, but of an entirely pacific alliance. Sir Robert Peel was that morning wedded to a sister of the Duchess of Wellington, and the accompaniments were worthy of the rank and affluence of the "happy pair." Even royal gifts figured among the tributes of friendship, and the Premier played the merry old gentleman of the occasion; jocosely representing the bridesmaids, and commending an extension of conjugal alliances by means of direct negotiations. It is pleasant to see how much like other people the great can be, and pleasant to breathe good wishes for the great unknown.

We shall miss from future lists of the House of Commons an illustrious name,—though long only a name, unfamiliar even on division lists,—that of Mr. Macaulay. In an address published this morning, the right honourable gentleman takes a respectful and final farewell of his constituents. The ablest orator, if ever silent,—the most upright politician, if ever inactive,—can hardly be regretted on his retirement from an assembly he can scarcely be said to adorn. But that confirmed ill-health is the cause of Mr. Macaulay's resignation, will excite sincere regret wherever his fame has penetrated, and wherever anticipation of his future services to our national literature is evoked by enjoyment of his recent performances.

The vacant representation of Cambridge University is contested by Mr. Walpole, the Conservative-Liberal leader, and Mr. Denman,—who describes himself as "Liberal, but Conservative." To choose between names almost equally honourable, and so little differing in political significance, must be a matter either of personal taste or party dictation. Mr. Helps, the well-known essayist, had been invited to stand, and retires before Mr. Denman with evident reluctance. His literary eminence fits him well to represent a seat of learning; and his deep interest in social questions—an interest at once philosophic and practical—would make him a valuable addition to the Legislature.

One of these questions, the Earl of Albemarle has revived, by discoursing to his labourers on Benefit Clubs—on another, a far more pressing one, that of Capital Punishments, Mr. Bright has spoken at Rochdale. The penalty of death is now virtually reserved for the infliction of death,—and is frequently withheld even in cases where murder has undoubtedly been committed. But it begins to be strongly felt that, whether or

not it be expedient to dispense, in all instances, with capital punishment, some principle of discrimination should be admitted. Only this week, a respectable London solicitor has been shot dead in the street by a young man who fancied him his enemy—at Bath, a woman has been kicked to death by her husband—at Liverpool, a girl nearly decapitated by her paramour. The philosopher, the moralist, even the ordinary observer, sees wide distinctions between the probable degree of criminality in these several cases,—and a still wider distinction between the worst of them and the alleged crimes of the man who, on Monday, confessed to having forged his mother's name by the hand of his dead wife. But the law sees no distinction. It exacts life for life,—breaks on one wheel the wretched victim of a momentary or a settled frenzy, and the monster who rivals the wickedness of the novelist's "Children of Night."

## PROSPECTS OF PEACE.

THANK God that we have such prospects! Few would have anticipated them a week ago. Thank God, we devoutly repeat, and the country, we verily believe, responds, Amen! What a sense of relief has diffused itself over society, in the last few days!—a relief resembling the indescribable sensation of ease which follows upon a sudden removal of pain. There was no need to ask whether the termination of the war upon the terms proposed by the Allies would be sustained by public opinion. The whole community smiled its assent. Its face brightened, whether it would or not, into an unmistakeable expression of gladness. British reserve tried to cover its joy with a veil of moderation, and muttered something like regret that gigantic efforts of preparation were likely to be set aside by diplomacy—but satisfaction visibly lurked behind the most grumbling criticism. If there was some lack of faith in the sincerity of Russia, it might be accounted for as of old—the people "believed not for joy."

We need not be reminded that the end is not yet. We know it—we know that a possibility remains of our missing it at last—but we are grateful to have it in sight. An unexpected break in the clouds, a glorious burst of sunshine, and a wide space of blue sky, are cheering to the pedestrian on a wet and miserable day, even although they cannot be held to insure the final clearing-up of the weather. For ourselves, we confess, we have no such profound distrust of Russia, as the press of this country labours to inspire—and we venture to anticipate that if, after all, negotiations should fail, the failure will be rather due to the desire of our own Premier and Foreign Secretary to have a third campaign, than to any chicanery on the part of the Government at St. Petersburg. Our real danger, we are convinced, lies at home—and were it not that Lords Palmerston and Clarendon are amenable to some control both by our Allies and by their own colleagues, we should be less sanguine than we are of an immediate peace. Happily, these statesmen are not in a position to give effect to their well-understood wishes. Like an unbroken steed in a break, they are compelled to go pace by pace with a soberer spirit than their own.

We observe that magnificent plans are being put forth as those upon which the Allies were to act against Russia in case of a third campaign. Austria was to have taken the field with the belligerent Powers, and to have given up Galicia in consideration of retaining the Principalities which she occupies. Posen was to have been taken, with or without Prussia's leave—and these two provinces, together with the duchy of Warsaw, were to have been constituted into a Polish kingdom, under the sovereignty of an Austrian Archduke. Cronstadt was, of course, to have been destroyed, and perhaps St. Petersburg occupied. If this degree of coercion should fail to bring Russia down on her knees, a fourth campaign was to have wrested from her the whole of Finland and given them back to Sweden. Of course, we have no means of ascertaining whether any such plans were ever discussed by the Allies—much less agreed upon—but we think it far more probable that, like the will of Julius Cæsar produced by Mark Anthony, they were sketched, as they are published, after Russia's acceptance of the Austrian proposals, and that they are given to the world in an unauthentic form, in order to lessen the desire of the British people to put a close to the struggle.

We cannot help believing, however, that the good sense of the public will be proof against these home-made stimulants. If it were true that the Allies had chalked out any such outline of warfare as that given above—there is an immense difference between what Governments intend to do, and what they are able actually to accomplish. It looks easy enough on paper to dismember Russia, but are we certain that it would prove easy in fact? And if it could be done eventually, would the result be worth the cost? The restoration of Poland is, no doubt,



a popular idea—but an Austrian Poland would be scarcely more palatable than a Russian. Our statesmen and diplomatists may have been prepared to bribe Austria into active operations by a gift to her of the Danubian Principalities—but we are not sure that the people of this country would not have regarded the arrangement as a diplomatic villainy as atrocious as the partition of Poland. Lord Palmerston, we are aware, has a partiality for Austria, and, in this respect, he differs greatly with the majority of his countrymen—but, independently altogether of national sympathies and antipathies, what moon-struck madness would it be to expend rivers of blood and millions of treasure, in putting down one overgrown military despotism, merely for the purpose of setting up another! No! we do not think the English people will rise at that bait.

The terms which Russia has accepted as the bases of negotiation, not only exceed all the objects and hopes which the maritime Powers entertained when they undertook the war, but, we may add, they are at least as extensive as the measure of success obtained by those Powers justified them in demanding. Public opinion in this country never branded them as insufficient or unworthy—and if there is now any misgiving on this score, it is merely because they have been unconditionally accepted. Had the Government at St. Petersburg peremptorily rejected the proposals, she would have done only what all Europe expected her to do. They were so stringent, that few well-informed people would have liked to stake their reputation on a prediction that we should get more liberal concessions after a third campaign. They comprehend, moreover, the entire object in which Europe was supposed to be interested—an effectual re-adjustment of the deranged "balance of power." Substantially, we believe, the English people feel this, and, as we have already intimated, are satisfied. Should, then, the negotiations be rendered ineffectual by impracticable demands on the part of our own Ministers, we are much mistaken if they would be able to command a sufficient amount of popular sympathy to sustain them.

But, in truth, we are far from anticipating an unsuccessful issue to the negotiations which have been set on foot. So far as appearances go, there is no reason to doubt the *bona fides* of Russia. She could not hope, by any prolongation of the contest, to better her position. On the contrary, she had the prospect of losing that moral support which hitherto she has enjoyed, and of being isolated from the sympathies of neighbouring Courts. She has been wise enough to make a virtue of necessity—and the Allies, we trust, will not be guilty of the folly of making a reconciliation impossible by the addition of ungenerous and impracticable conditions. If both parties are sincere in their agreement to the preliminaries—and there is no sufficient reason yet before the public to doubt it—we shall, in all probability, have to rejoice in the year 1856, as a year of renewed European peace.

#### MURDER WITHOUT PASSION OR BLOODSHED.

It is melancholy to observe how closely the footsteps of crime have followed on those of civilization,—how quickly the forms and agencies of human wickedness have varied with the stages of human knowledge and condition. In the very first scene of the history of our race,—a scene so remote as to be visible only in the reflected light of inspired narrative,—there is the enactment of a crime so gross and inexpiable that the future has no law which reaches beyond it. Slow and toilsome is the development of the faculties by which life is secured and solaced,—while the passions which destroy and disturb it, seem to have leaped at once into preternatural maturity. But a club or a stone suffices the first murderer. He turns upon his victim in the field, or leaps upon him from behind a bush. The cunning of the fratricide, for generations, suggests no profounder artifice than lurking in the wayfarer's path, or stealing into the sleeper's tent. The stroke of a blade, the flight of an arrow, does the work of death, while the herb is only known for meat—while as yet nature conceals her own malignant powers from malignant man. The "poisoned chalice" is the emblem of a progress in which virtue has not kept pace with science—of a social state in which the knowledge of good has proved also the knowledge of evil, and the very means of cure are perverted to the work of death.

It is some consolation, however, that the arts which wicked men may use to compass, with fancied security, their purposes of anger, avarice, or revenge, may be far more surely used against them—if not to prevent, at least to detect, their subtle villainies. If chemical discoveries enlarge our catalogue of poisons, they also enlarge our catalogue of antidotes—and, which is equally important, enable us to recognise the operations of the poison, while the antidote may yet be administered with effect. But should the poisoner

accomplish his work of darkness—should the deadly potion be given with unseen and unshrinking hand; the wasting sickness, or the fatal spasm, or the convulsive agonies, of his victim, be hidden under a secrecy heavy as his own guilt,—the avenger is not the less surely on his path. Had he lifted the old red hand of murder in the broad light of day,—had he left a stunned and bleeding body in some copse or garret,—had he fled away, while the sparks of electric wires printed his features on the wall of every rustic alehouse,—he could scarcely have been in greater danger of the gibbet. If his terror is less than that of a vulgar Bill Sykes or Jonas Chuzzlewit, it is but because of his ignorance. The more perfect his performance, the more certain his detection. Suspicion will be excited by the suddenness with which his unseen blow descended, or by the fruits of its success; and with the first gleam of suspicion, his airy fabric of security melts away. So long as the remains of his victim hang together, even they will bear testimony against him. The knife of the anatomist will lay bare the innermost recesses, the minutest crevices, of the mechanism so wonderful in its very rottenness; and there the tests of the chemist will evoke the long-hidden grain, the inscrutable atom, by which life was driven out. Rarely does it fail that the subtle weapon thus rescued from the very ashes of the murdered is traced up to the hand that wielded it; but, even then, Nemesis is not utterly baffled—society is not without its gain. Fear—the fear of a doom far more terrible to his imagination than that which he inflicted—fastens on the heart of the assassin. Though he drew no blood, the voice of his brother's blood cries unceasingly from the ground,—and all the echoes of a world that seems to echo the stealthiest footstep, threaten to avenge the innocent upon the guilty.

But there is one aspect of the crimes recently made public, that yields no gleam of consolation or hope. It is no new thing for men to kill for the sake of plunder. The earliest poet who bewailed the evils of the love of money, numbered amongst them that

Gold breeds 'mongst brethren strife;  
Gold destroys the parent's life.

But the new and appalling feature is, that life seems to be systematically bartered for money,—now, by some wretched mother, for the price of her child's burial; now by some profligate, speculating upon the insurance of a wife or brother. Nor is that all. In all the recent cases, medical men seem to have been content with far less than the vigilance and decision which would have prevented the consummation of crime. Insurance companies issue policies much more readily than they pay the money when claimed. A postmaster, a telegraph clerk, even a coroner, lapse in their several duties, under the influence of a man who can pay his way and make presents. It is enough that on that one man rests the horrible suspicion of deliberately and cruelly taking life after life, that his purse might be filled. But is it not significant of a mean, base morality, that, on every side, and in nearly every rank, he finds the unconscious accomplices of his stupendous villany by touching with gold hands to which he owed no debt?

#### LIFE PEERAGES.

The elevation of Baron Parke to the peerage, by a title that will expire with himself, raises a question not yet ripe for discussion, but that should not now be overlooked, nor hereafter forgotten.

There is an obvious utility in the creation of life peerages,—and an equally obvious congeniality with democratic sentiment. It affords an easy means of rewarding those distinguished services which are not unfrequently performed by men of moderate means, but for which the country might be unwilling to pay with those large estates which are considered indispensable to hereditary nobility. It furnishes also that opportunity of signalling the public sense of literary or scientific eminence for which some members of the profession have an ignoble hunger. A successful soldier, a worn-out minister, an illustrious author or discoverer, might wear his well-earned honours among the proudest of the land, none the less proudly that his could not be tarnished by descent to an unworthy heir. In such men, the opponents of hereditary right would find a representation of their ideas, and a mitigation of their supposed grievance. Loftily as an Argyll, a Bedford, a Derby, a Howard, a Shaftesbury, or a Talbot, might bear himself in the presence of these plebeian peers, the plebs at large would scoffingly pit the men of brains against the men of blood, and laugh at complaints of the degradation of our "old nobility"—complaints which the *Press*, youngest and sprightliest of Conservative organs, utters already with the scolding vehemence of a decrepid dowager.

But, on the other hand,—life peerages supply Ministers with a most facile instrument of corruption. And that is a huge "but." Macaulay traces, with more artistic skill than honest feeling, the rise and growth of parliamentary venality; and rather praises the Whigs for excelling in an art invented by the Tories. He elsewhere sneers at "disinterested men," as men who prefer indulging their spleen to improving their fortunes. Here is a means by which unprincipled but decorous Ministers may purchase even the "disinterested." A blue ribbon has tied up many a wavering duke, and a dukedom drawn over many an opposition marquis. How many Whig-Radical baronets would not a few coronets purchase, even though the coronets could not be devised with funds or acres? Nor is it easy to invent a rule by which the prerogative could be limited, without at the same time defeating the very object of life peerages. Lord Wensleydale's appearance among hereditary nobles is unquestionably a step in the right direction, but a step that cannot just yet be followed up without danger of going wrong. Until the people are masters in their own House, they should be jealous of changes in "another place."

#### THE EASY SOLUTION OF A GREAT QUESTION.

In the Message which proclaimed the Central American question an international difficulty, it was promised that correspondence thereupon should be laid before the United States Congress. It is now in the possession of the English public also,—and as many as feel sufficient interest, may wade through twenty broadsheet columns of letters *pro* and *con*. Few will be disposed, we think, to accomplish the task,—for the first article of the treaty which is the subject of all this controversy, is scarcely capable of two interpretations. It is as follows:—

The United States and Great Britain agree that neither will occupy, or fortify, or colonise, or assume or exercise, any dominion over Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Mosquito Coast, or any part of Central America. Nor will either make use of any protection which either affords, or may afford, or any alliance which either has, or may have, to or with any State or people, for the purpose of occupying, fortifying, or colonising Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Mosquito Coast, or any part of Central America, or of assuming or exercising dominion over the same.

It seems impossible that the ingenuity of diplomatists, however sharpened by a real or imaginary sense of interest, should find a pretext for exempting from this agreement a protectorate of Mosquito Indians, an alliance with the former masters of Nicaragua, or any other existing rights. It is, with equal clearness, a renunciation of present and of proximate or possible acquisitions, in the regions named. It expressly prohibits the use of "any protection which either affords," and of "any alliance which either has," for the purpose of occupation, or of any other form of supremacy. By words in the present as well as in the future tense, it appears to preclude the subsequent assertion either of anterior or of contemporary claims. The judgment of any common sense, ingenious man would be, The parties to this Treaty can have no further business with the countries described.

Nevertheless, it is in these specified countries, and in spite of this unambiguous document, that our Government continues to exercise authority—even to the use of force against American citizens, who may be equally intruders with ourselves, but cannot be more so. They have thus provoked the incursions of other marauders, and set up a sort of Alsatia in the highway between the Eastern shores of America and its Western goldlands. That the possession of this highway was the real object of our unexpected assertion of rights we had thus formally renounced, cannot be doubted,—and it must be readily admitted that the prize was a tempting one. But just in proportion to the value which attached to the position in our eyes, would be the determination of the United States to enforce our agreement. It is marvellous, therefore, that the correspondence was conducted with so little heat, and did not sooner swell to the dimensions which President Pierce now assigns to it; especially as Lord Palmerston gratuitously aggravated American irritation by posting in the Western seas a squadron larger than the States' entire navy.

There is but one way out of the difficulty—a short though unpleasant one—the way back. That we are not extravagant either in our interpretation of the quarrel or our method of reconciliation, the *Times* will for once bear witness. The great potentate who but lately proclaimed war upon the States as a nation of freebooters, now informs us our own Government is decidedly in the wrong, and counsels it to withdraw immediately from the protectorate of Mosquito, throwing up Ruatan and Belize as graceful if less inevitable concessions. The *Times* knows how to do an unavoidable penance with an air of light-hearted agility. Nor is Lord Palmerston quite without that accomplishment. He has so invariably taken back the



affront offered to States too big or too spirited to accept them, that he is quite an adept at the simulation of meekness. But we are not sure that he feels the necessity just yet. So many foolish people applaud his performance on the high ropes that he may be very reluctant to descend. Let all the wise unite at once to warn him of a forced descent, more ungraceful than the least expected leap.

#### MADAME GOLDSCHMIDT AT EXETER HALL.

The magic name of Jenny Lind attracted an immense audience to Exeter Hall on Monday night, when Mendelssohn's "Elijah" was repeated for the second time. In spite of the high charges for admission—the lowest being 7s. 6d., which admitted only to a mere fringe of seats under the gallery—the Hall was inconveniently crowded. In fact the Lind *furor* suffers no abatement, judging from the fact that, so far back as Tuesday last, it was impossible to procure tickets to the half-guinea unreserved seats.

As only ten days have elapsed since Madame Novello appeared in the part sustained on Monday by Madame Goldschmidt, the occasion naturally suggests a comparison between the two greatest soprano singers of the day. In artistic finish, delicacy of expression, and purity of voice, the English vocalist will vie with the Swedish nightingale. Listening to the first you feel as if perfection in vocal execution had almost been attained—you admire and are satisfied. But Jenny Lind excites a different class of sensations. There is no time to consult the judgment and critical taste. Captivated by the nameless charm of the inspired singer, you are hurried along by her passionate fervour and pathos, till the inmost susceptibilities of soul vibrate with sympathy, and a new world of emotion, such as only genius appealing to the loftiest feelings of our nature can evoke, bursts upon the enraptured listener. Just as a preacher, whose soul overflows with his sublime theme, enchains his hearers with the power and fervour of his eloquence, so the Swedish songstress carries away the sympathies and fills the soul with her sublime outpourings. Orchestra, chorus, and auditory were alike spell-bound and inspired. Her spirit pervaded the whole performance. Never have we heard the conceptions of the great composer so adequately realised; nor solo singers and chorus refused to equal exertions. In the two quartets which occur in the first part of "Elijah," the other solo singers seemed to perform their part all the better from being associated with Madame Goldschmidt, who possesses the unusual faculty and will of adapting herself to the capacity of those with whom she sings. The second part opens with the grand air, "Hear ye Israel," which Madame Goldschmidt sang with a dramatic power and religious fervour, especially the passage, "Be not afraid, for I am thy God, I will strengthen thee," that created a sensation too deep to find expression in applause. A similar effect was produced in the quartet and chorus, "Holy, holy, holy is God the Lord," when her voice rose with indescribable pathos and clearness above the volume of harmony, producing impressions worthy of the angelic theme described. Insensible must have been the heart that was not kindled to high and holy emotion by the touching spectacle of an impassioned singer throwing all the tenderness and devotion of woman's nature into strains of sublime adoration! No wonder that Jenny Lind inspires that personal regard—that interest in her individual self—which no other singer calls forth.

We have small space to speak of the other performers, excellent as was the service they rendered. Miss Dolby was unanimously encored in the favourite air, "O, rest in the Lord," and the three ladies—Madame Goldschmidt, Miss Dolby, and Miss Messent—in the exquisite trio, "Lift thine eyes to the mountains." Mr. Locke sang with his usual taste and more than customary energy; while Mr. Weiss, as Elijah, sustained that difficult part with great intelligence and animation. The choral part of the performance was rendered with a vigour, heartiness, and colouring that bespoke good discipline and the guidance of an experienced conductor. Mr. Benedict has won laurels by his recent efforts in this capacity. The crowded audience, though enthusiastic, was discriminating and not noisy; and on the whole, we have never attended an oratorio where there was less to offend the most delicate susceptibilities, or more to excite the loftiest emotions.

A farmer in Suffolk, in announcing his willingness to take a wife, declares that as he is himself in clover, he has no objection to take a lady in weeds.

A gipsy woman promised to show to two young ladies their husband's faces in a pail of water. They looked, and exclaimed, "Why, we only see our own faces." "Well," said the gipsy, "those faces will be your husbands' when you are married."

#### A FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE.

The *Morning Post* devotes no less than three columns to a narrative of the marriage, on Thursday, of Sir Robert Peel, Baronet, M.P., to Lady Emily Hay, youngest daughter of the Marquis of Tweeddale, and the sister of the Duchess of Wellington. The leading persons of the assemblage in the Royal Chapel are mentioned by name; the various dresses, bouquets, &c., are elaborately described, and scarcely a movement on the part of those immediately interested seems to have escaped the watchful reporter's eye. During the progress of the bridal cortege along the sacred edifice, "the bride and bridegroom both stood well out from the group—equally prominent, the one for delicate beauty, and the other for manly and open bearing. A better matched couple could scarcely have been found." The bride was magnificently attired. "Her dress was of white satin, with deep flounces of Brussels lace, the corsage, which was made low in the neck, and the sleeves being fully trimmed with the same rich material. Her ladyship carried in her hand a bridal bouquet of exquisitely choice flowers. She had on a rich jewel, and over her dark hair—wreathed with orange flowers—fell a veil of lace." At the close of the religious rite, "Sir Robert led his lovely bride into the vestry, where her ladyship subscribed her spinster name for the last time in a bold and firm hand. Leaving the other members of the two families to subscribe their names, Sir Robert Peel came out into the chapel, where he received the hearty congratulations of his many friends." Then follows a notice of the luncheon at Apsley House, and an account of the "travelling costume" worn by Lady Emily on leaving with her husband for Drayton Manor, Tamworth. The bridal couple were cheered by numbers of people collected in Whitehall and Hyde-park Corner. They did not remain to the breakfast, but there was a grand wedding collation in the celebrated Waterloo Gallery, which has seen no festivity since June 18, 1852.

In the course of the speaking, Mr. Frederick Peel said the event of the morning, the marriage of his brother with the sister of the Duchess of Wellington, could not fail to remind them of the cordial union between the late Duke and the late Sir Robert Peel. The Marquis of Tweeddale was proud to think that a daughter of his family should be a link of connexion between "the representatives of the illustrious houses of Wellington and Peel." But Earl Granville and Lord Palmerston were the gayest and smartest speakers. Earl Granville proposed the health of the bridesmaids. He reminded them that the midnight plunge made by Sir Robert Peel from a sinking ship in the Mediterranean saved him from death; the plunge he made that day did not require much moral courage, and was not made in the dark. "But for you, young ladies, it is nevertheless a solemn warning; the plunge he has this day made is a plunge that must come at last to all of you. Believe me, the longer you stand shivering on the brink, the more violent will be the shock when it occurs." When the company had ceased laughing at this sally, Lord Palmerston, with his customary vivacity, returned thanks for the bridesmaids: assuring his hearers that the graces of the young ladies no less commanded his admiration than that of the young gentlemen who, he saw, envied him his proud position. "In these days of negotiation, it is the fashion to depend much on the mediation of intervening parties. I strongly recommend those young gentlemen who are about to enter upon any tender diplomacies, not to have recourse to any such mediating parties, but to use direct negotiation, which, although not always successful in politics, is by far the best plan." The speech of the buoyant Premier closed the entertainment.

The trousseau of the bride included presents from Her Majesty the Queen and other members of the Royal family and almost numberless gifts from her relatives and friends. The reception given to the happy pair at Tamworth was most enthusiastic. The bride, who is the youngest of eight daughters, is in her 20th year; the bridegroom is in the 36th year of his age.

#### THE FINE ARTS.

**CITY STEREOSCOPIC GALLERY.**—At No. 54, Cheap-side, the London Stereoscopic Company, which has been for some time in Oxford-street, has opened a city gallery. The premises are very convenient for the purpose, and the number of stereoscopes fixed in suitable positions, and the numberless stereoscopic photographs, promise rich entertainment to the visitor. The views are of great merit and variety—from those of the Crystal Palace and French Exhibition, which may be reckoned by hundreds, to graphic sketches from every capital in Europe, and pictures of buildings, portraits, groups, or still life—uniting the reality of nature with the elaboration of art. The exhibition is replete with attraction, and will, no doubt, become a favourite lounge for holiday makers. This company, some time ago, offered a prize of 20l. for the best essay on the stereoscope. Sir David Brewster has just given his award in favour of Mr. Lonie, professor of mathematics, St. Andrew's, N.B. This much-desired work will be published immediately.

A NEW MUSEUM is projected under fair auspices. It is to be called The Scriptural Museum; and its purpose is to afford a series of illustrations of Bible history, geography, and manners. Mr. Benoni has lent his cabinet of Egyptian Antiquities and his sketches of Assyrian Sculpture to the Society—a good beginning most assuredly. The Society, of which the Earl of Chichester is President, and the Rev. D. Edwards Secretary, propose to embrace the following subjects in their collection: Landscape Scenery of Palestine—Models of Jerusalem—Productions: Vegetable, Animal, and Mineral—Illustrations of the Civil and

Ecclesiastical Polity of the Hebrews—Military Discipline—Sacred Antiquities of the Israelites, Assyrians, Egyptians—Tabernacle—Temple, Proseuchas, and Synagogues—Dress of Priests—High Priests and Levites—Temple Vessels—Musical Instruments—Domestic Antiquities—Tents, Houses, and Furniture—Dress—Coverings for the Head, Phylacteries, Raiment of Camel Hair—Signets, Rings, Sandals—Literature, Science, and Art—Writing Materials and Implements—Sinaitic and other Inscriptions—Manuscripts—Poetry—Painting and Music—Agricultural Implements—Arms and Chariots of War—Weights, Measures, Coins, and other Articles relating to commerce—Treatment of the Dead, and Funeral Rites. It is proposed to establish a library in connexion with the Museum; and also to organise courses of lectures on the topics illustrated by the articles in the Society's collection.

#### A WEEK'S MURDERS.

London was startled, on Wednesday afternoon, by the report of an assassination committed in broad daylight that morning. As Mr. Waugh, of the firm of Waugh and Mitchell, was turning towards Hand-court, a man rushed out, and fired a pistol at his breast. Mr. Waugh exclaimed, "O God! take him—hold him!" and fell. Several persons saw the act and heard the exclamation, and hastening up, secured the assassin. A surgeon, passing, examined the wound and found that Mr. Waugh was dead. Throwing another pistol on the pavement, the man made no attempt to escape. When seized, he said, "I did it—I have not a friend in the world." At the station-house, he said that his name was Westron; and that Mr. Waugh had married into his family, and cheated him out of 800l.; he added, "Now, I am satisfied." It turns out that Westron, who is deformed, labours under sickly delusions respecting the treatment of the property belonging to his family. He was carried before the Clerkenwell Magistrate, and committed to take his trial for wilful murder. The inquest was opened on Friday; when the usual scene between Mr. Wakley and the Police ensued. Westron is deformed. Mr. Wakley put the question—"Is the man with the hump on his back here?" The reply was in the negative; and, in order that the inquiry should not be a "mockery," it was immediately adjourned. Mr. Mitchell, however, Mr. Waugh's partner, put in a declaration of the actual relations between the murderer and his victim. It was to this effect—that Mr. Waugh had by his exertions gained an estate worth several thousands for the Westron family; that the prisoner had frustrated all attempts to sell the property; that at length he had consented to sell his share, last Monday, but again broke off; that Mr. Waugh had, although provoked, been uniformly kind to Westron. "I am induced to make this statement," Mr. Mitchell added, "out of respect to the memory of my departed friend, which may be injured by the statements of the prisoner. I may say, in conclusion, that I know him to have been a good husband, a kind and indulgent father, and a generous and warm-hearted friend." The jury again met on Monday, when Mr. Wakley informed them that he had learnt from the Home Secretary that there would be no difficulty in producing the prisoner this (Wednesday) morning, at ten o'clock, and that he would be examined at the police-office at twelve on the same day. Mr. Lewis, who appeared for the prisoner, said that Westron had no personal feeling against Mr. Waugh, but is a confirmed lunatic. But Mr. Wakley declined to hear such statements, and the inquest was adjourned.

A man named Johnny Williams, alias Falk, residing in Liverpool, on Monday morning murdered a woman named Sally Drummond, with whom he was living, in a drunken brawl. It appeared that in the course of their dispute, Williams threatened to cut her throat, and Drummond having dared him to do so, he seized her by the hair and drew the blade of a clasp knife across her throat, from the effects of which she shortly afterwards expired. Williams, upon being arrested, made a desperate attempt upon his life, and, owing to his violence, had to be put in irons in Bridewell.

Great excitement has been created in Bath by the perpetration of a murder of a very shocking character. Between twelve and one o'clock on Saturday night, a woman named Eliza Howell, living in Avon-street, was brutally kicked in the abdomen by her husband, and bled to death in about twenty minutes. What renders the case more shocking is, that the unfortunate woman was very near her confinement, and the life of the child, as well as her own, has consequently been sacrificed. The man is a costermonger. He has been examined and remanded. The cause of the crime does not very clearly appear, but it is stated that the prisoner and his wife had been drinking together in the course of the evening, and had quarrelled at the Seven Dials public house, when the prisoner gave his wife a backhanded blow in the face. He afterwards left, and the wife went away with another woman.

#### THE RUGELEY POISONINGS.

A collateral inquiry before the magistrates into the conduct of the postmaster of Rugeley has arisen out of the Palmer case, and has resulted in the committal of that functionary for trial on a charge of "opening a letter on its transit through the Post-office, contrary to the statute, and in this case calculated to defeat or impede the course of justice." Cheshire, the postmaster, was in communication with William Palmer before the latter was arrested, and Palmer had asked him to tell "anything he heard." On the 4th December, Professor Taylor posted a letter, enclosed in an envelope, properly fastened, to Mr. Gardner, the solicitor for the prosecution in the case of Cook. That letter stated, among other things, that



no poison had been found in Cook's body. Cheshire admits that on the morning of the 5th December he saw the letter, as he alleges, "open," and that he read it. "Elated" at the discovery that no poison had been found, he fastened up and forwarded the letter—so he states—and then, calling on Palmer, told him the secret it contained. Palmer instantly communicated the news to Mr. Ward, the Coroner, by letter; adding, that he hoped the verdict next day would be that Cook "died of natural causes, and thus end it." George Bates carried this letter to the Coroner, and at the same time, by Palmer's direction, procured some game and sent it to Mr. Ward. Bates says he subsequently carried a second letter to the Coroner, and by Palmer's direction secretly gave it him; but, in a note to the magistrates, forwarding Palmer's first letter, the Coroner says, "I have only one." After this, George Bates repeated his deposition that two letters were delivered to the Coroner. Cheshire the postmaster was admitted to bail.

The *Times* thus summarises the case against Mr. Ward, the Coroner: "As soon as Palmer had received the information, he sent for a farm servant in his employment, named Bate, and charged him with three letters for Stafford. One was for Mr. Ward, the Coroner, another for one Frantz, a dealer in game; the third we will pass over. The subject-matter of the first is as yet in doubt, but the object of the second was to order a basket of game, which was to be given as a present from Palmer to Ward. Even thus far we find the accused in friendly communication with his judge, in a manner calculated to defeat the due administration of the law. A few days afterwards Palmer employed the same messenger to convey a second letter to Ward, but this time the strictest secrecy was enjoined. Bate ascertained that Ward had gone a short distance from Stafford by rail. He accordingly hung about the station until Ward returned, and then followed him some little way, so that he might not be seen by any of the employees of the station in the act of delivering a letter from his master to the Coroner. Here, then, are two letters which have passed from Palmer to Ward. The Coroner was, of course, summoned before the magistrates to explain his conduct, but, under one pretext or another, he has hitherto contrived to avoid or defer obedience. He has, however, written a letter to the Bench, in which he admits that he had received one letter from Palmer—not two—and forwards this letter for the inspection of the magistrates. In this letter, which is precisely such an one as a prisoner charged with the commission of a heinous offence would write to the solicitor defending his case, Palmer informs Ward of the contents of Dr. Taylor's letter to Mr. Gardner, and adds, 'This is strictly private and confidential.' Other points are also brought out in his favour, and other questions suggested which his kind friend may judiciously put to the witnesses for the prosecution. The letter contains one very remarkable expression:—'As regards his (Cook's) betting-book, I know nothing of it, and it is of no use to any one.' Palmer seems to be very well assured of the nature of its contents. It is but a reasonable inference that he had at least glanced over them shortly before Cook's death, and was, consequently, aware where the book was at that time. This, however, is merely incidental to the main subject in our view just now, which is, the conduct of Ward, the Coroner. On Thursday next, when the inquiry is resumed, he may, we trust, be able to clear himself from the charge of having received a second letter from Palmer, clear as is the evidence of Bate, the messenger. If the letter which could be produced was of so damning a nature, what must that letter have been which it was necessary to suppress? But, even as far as the case has gone, there is enough to show that Ward can no longer be permitted to preside at a series of investigations in the result of which the life of his friend is involved."

On Monday William Palmer was brought up to London, from Stafford Gaol, under a writ of *habeas corpus*, issued by Mr. Justice Erle, to give evidence in the case of "Padwick v. Palmer," which was an action brought in the Court of Queen's Bench, against Mrs. Palmer, of Rugeley, to recover 2,000*l.* on a bill of exchange alleged to have been accepted by her. She, however, denied that it was her writing. The case was heard on Monday, in the Lord Chancellor's Court, the Bail Court being too small to accommodate the vast mass of persons who were attracted by an announcement that William Palmer would be brought up on *habeas* from Stafford Gaol to give evidence on the part of the defence. William Palmer was brought into court in custody. He appeared in excellent health, and behaved in a most cool and collected manner. In reply to questions, he stated that the signature, "William Palmer," as drawer of the bill, was in his handwriting, and that he applied to Padwick to advance money on it. In answer to the question, "Who wrote Sarah Palmer's acceptance on it?" he said "Ann Palmer. (Great sensation.) She was my wife, and is now dead, and I saw her write it." This announcement ended the case, and a verdict for the defendant, who is William Palmer's mother, was given. Crowds of persons assembled round the private door of the court, anxious to catch a glimpse of the prisoner as he passed. He left Westminster in a cab, and was removed to Stafford on Monday night. All the interest of the law courts seemed to be absorbed in this case. The Queen's Bench, Exchequer, and Common Pleas sat in banco; but no points of public importance arose.

At a meeting of the Union Bank of Australia, held on Friday, Mr. J. J. Cummings presiding, a dividend was declared at the rate of twenty-seven per cent. per annum free of income-tax!

#### A MEMOIR OF WILLIAM PALMER.

It appears that Mr. William Palmer is a member of a very wealthy family, and is now in his thirty-fourth year or thereabouts. He was educated for the Medical Profession, was a pupil at St. Bartholomew's, received the Diploma of the College of Surgeons in 1846, and settled at Rugeley, his native place. He seems, however, to have paid more attention to the "turf," and to what are commonly called sporting pursuits, than to his own profession, and to have confined his practice to his own family and friends. He married, in 1847, Anne, the natural daughter of Colonel William Brookes and Mary Thornton, his housekeeper. Colonel Brookes, who, after quitting the East India Service, took up his residence at Stafford, died in 1834, leaving considerable property, and more than one natural child. To Anne Thornton he bequeathed, by a will dated July 27, 1833, nine houses at Stafford, besides land, and the interest of 20,000 *seca* rupees, for herself and her children, and appointed Dr. Edward Knight, a highly-respectable Physician of Stafford, and a Mr. Dawson, her guardians and trustees. To Mary Thornton, the mother of Anne, the Colonel bequeathed certain property, which was to pass to the daughter at the decease of the mother. Mary Thornton departed this life, it is said, while a guest at Mr. Palmer's house, in 1848 or 1849. Now, although the will of Colonel Brookes would seem clear enough to any one who was ignorant of law, and although, in the present state of the law, as we are informed, it would be sufficient, yet it was discovered by the legal fraternity some years since, that the language conveying the bequest to Anne Thornton was not sufficiently forcible to convey it to her absolutely, but only to give her a life-interest in it; inasmuch as at her decease it was liable to be claimed by the heir-at-law to Colonel Brookes. Under these circumstances, there was nothing unnatural or unusual in the idea that Palmer should insure his wife's life, in order to protect himself from the inevitable loss which must ensue in case of her decease. Accordingly, in January, 1854, he insured her life for 5,000*l.* in the Norwich Union, and in March, in the Sun for 5,000*l.*; there was also an insurance in the Scottish Equitable for 5,000*l.* Mrs. Palmer died on September 29, 1854. An action was brought within a month afterwards by Colonel Brookes's heir-at-law, to obtain possession of Mrs. Palmer's property. Palmer brought up the Life Policies on the Sun and Norwich Union, on the 16th October, 1854, and employed Mr. Pratt, the Solicitor, to obtain the money from the offices. Mr. Pratt, who seems to have acted with entire *bond fide*, and the caution usual among lawyers, required to be furnished with evidence of the husband's pecuniary interest in his wife's life, took counsel's opinion in every step, and obtained the 8,000*l.* from the offices on the 6th February, 1855; strangely enough, the 5,000*l.* from the Scottish Equitable was paid through a banker, unknown to Pratt.—*Medical Times and Gazette.*

#### Court, Personal, and Official News.

The Queen entertained a select and distinguished company at Windsor Castle on Thursday, to witness the second dramatic performance this season. The play selected was "The Jealous Wife." Amongst the visitors have been the Count de Flanders, who frequently accompanied Prince Albert on shooting expeditions; Viscount Palmerston, the Rev. Dr. Philpott, the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, Lieutenant-Colonel Chapman, the Engineer of "Chapman's attack" at the siege of Sebastopol; the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Marquis of Abercorn, the Earl of Shelburne, and Lord Ashburton. On Friday, the Queen dined with the Duchess of Kent, at Frogmore-lodge, and attended an evening party. The Duke and Duchess d'Aumale have visited Her Majesty during the past week. The Count of Flanders took his departure on Monday for Brussels.

The *Inquirer* of Saturday narrates the following story illustrating the Queen's views on American slavery: "A lady in this country, who has travelled lately in America, has issued a book containing her impressions of what she had seen. She is not unknown in this country for her sympathy with our white slaves, and her name has an honourable place in the history of reformatory schools. This lady, the Hon. Miss Murray, adopted in the Southern States the tone of the society she found there, and agreed heartily, not only in what was said of the white slaves in England, but also in what was said of the black slaves in Carolina. She has therefore not hesitated to publish in her book opinions favourable to negro slavery, even to the extent of dogmatically saying that God created Negroes to live under restraint, and that slavery is a means 'designed by Providence for the making of some good Christian men and women.' As one of the Queen's Ladies in Waiting, Miss Murray wished to dedicate the book to Her Majesty. It is understood, however, that on seeing the proof sheets, Her Majesty not only refused the dedication, but required that Miss Murray, if she published it, should resign her place at Court."

The Green Riband of the Order of the Thistle, vacant by the death of the Marquis of Ailesbury, has been offered to the Duke of Argyll.

Lady Molesworth, replying to an address of condolence from the tenantry of the late Sir William, observes: "My feeble pen can but inadequately express all I feel—all that is due to him who is taken from us. But another, who, from his great talents and noble nature, is no mean judge, has borne testimony to his sterling worth. Lord Palmerston, in the letter he addressed to me on the occasion of the sad blow befalling me, made use of the following words: 'For singleness of mind, honesty of purpose, clearness

of judgment, faithfulness of conduct, courage in difficulties, and equanimity in success, he never was surpassed; and deeply must any nation lament the premature loss of such a man; for voids so created are not easily replaced.' Such words from such a man prove how justly the kind friends I address have formed their opinion."—*Express.*

The *Daily News* "learns from a quarter which it has every reason to think well informed, that Mr. Shaw Lefevre has no intention as yet of tendering his resignation of the Speakership."

Mr. Bodkin having declined to accept the office of Assistant-Judge of the Middlesex Sessions, Mr. Pashley, Q.C., has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

It is said that Sir John Dean Paul and Mr. Strahan, the convict bankers, are busily employed in prison, the former at tailoring, and the latter at chair-making.

A Cabinet Council was held on Friday afternoon at the Foreign-office, and sat two hours and three-quarters.

The *Gazette* contains a copy of the convention between Her Majesty and the Emperor of Japan, respecting the admission of British ships into Japanese ports.

The Right Hon. Spencer Horatio Walpole has accepted the office of Archbishop's Church Estates Commissioner, vacated by the lamented decease of the Right Hon. Henry Goulburn. The income attached to the office is 1,000*l.* a year.

The paragraph in circulation, stating that Father Mathew has become a missionary in the Feejee Islands, proves to be incorrect. That distinguished philanthropist, writing to a friend, says: "Since my return to Ireland (from Madeira) I have not left for a single day my dear brother's house, to which I am confined by illness. My heart is still, thank God, as ardent as ever in the glorious cause of temperance."

On Friday evening, a numerous meeting of the inhabitants of Birmingham was held in the Town Hall, for the purpose of taking into consideration the present unjust operation of the tax upon income, with a view to its more equitable adjustment and imposition. Mr. Arthur Ryland was called to the chair. Mr. Muntz, M.P., Mr. Scholefield, M.P., Mr. T. A. Attwood, Mr. T. C. Salt, Mr. George Downing, Mr. Brooke Smith, Mr. C. Sturge, and other influential inhabitants of the borough, addressed the meeting. It was unanimously resolved: "That, in the opinion of this meeting, the present system of levying a tax on industrious incomes is unjust, and that an equitable adjustment is essentially necessary, and that the iniquitous powers under which the tax is now assessed ought to be abolished." A memorial was also adopted to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, embodying, at great length, the objections to the income-tax as at present levied, and, being seconded by Mr. F. Wills, it was carried unanimously, as was also a petition to the same effect to the House of Commons.

#### Miscellaneous News.

The western journals of Ireland continue to notice a marked decline in the number of emigrants from that quarter of the kingdom.

The following gentlemen have been elected directors of the Crystal Palace Company; Mr. S. Beale, Mr. A. C. Ionides, Mr. D. Ogilvie, and Mr. H. D. Seymour, M.P.

The British Empire, Captain Vaughan (late the *Demerara*), has arrived at Queenstown with a cargo consisting of upwards of 4,000 tons of guano, the largest cargo ever imported in one ship.

It has been decided by the Improvement Committee of the City of London that the thoroughfare from Farringdon-street to the Sessions House, Clerk-enwell, shall be opened for public traffic next July.

Two men have been convicted of having housebreaking implements in their possession. One of the tools was a novelty—by means of it a robber could unlock a door from the outside, with the key which had been left in the lock on the inside.

On Wednesday last, while C. H. Bracebridge, Esq., of Atherstone Hall, was out riding, his horse stumbled in consequence of the slippery state of the roads and fell, with the leg of the respected gentleman under the leg of the animal. Fortunately no bone was broken, and beyond the shock and a cut over the right eye, Mr. Bracebridge was not injured.

Henry Watts, the keeper of a beer-shop at Paddington, was convicted some four months since of killing his wife, and was sentenced to fourteen years' transportation. The chief witness against him, Sarah Browning, has since been convicted of perjury in another case. A memorial has been sent to the Home Secretary; and he has commuted Watts's punishment to two years' imprisonment.

Manchester has emphatically pronounced in favour of the proposal to raise a "Nightingale fund." At a meeting in the Town Hall, on Thursday, very fully attended, and numbering among its speakers Mr. Sidney Herbert, Lord Stanley, Mr. Monckton Milnes, Mr. Mark Phillips, Mr. Bazley, and Mr. Entwistle, the projected establishment for nurses under the control of Miss Nightingale was received with a general concurrence, and a considerable amount was subscribed on the spot.

Mr. J. P. Hamer, noted for 103 ascents of Snowdon, describes the view from the summit, on Thursday (10th instant), the night of the lighting of the Malvern beacon: "Finding the huts well secured, I got under the lee of the stones, set my compass, and viewed the glorious and awfully-grand scene around me,—the moon's rays divided between Carnarvon and Cardigan Bays, Kaible Vale and Lakes, the stars larger and more thickly studded than I ever witnessed before, and quite red, pointing out the different lakes (twenty-eight) from their reflection therein; the dark



outline of the Cardiganshire mountains, and for miles and miles S.E., mountain over mountain; the severe northerly gale wafting the hissing of the Chester and Holyhead trains through Anglesey, their engine fires, the Holyhead and Skerries lights distinguishable, also the glare of the towns of Carnarvon and Bangor. With the compass bearing due S.E., a very faint reflection in the sky was just visible."

The Earl of Albermarle addressed a party of Norfolk labourers on the subject of benefit clubs, on Tuesday evening, at East Harling, near Attleborough. The general conclusions at which he arrived were—that benefit societies should not meet at public-houses; that they should have a graduated scale of payment; that they should not ensure superannuation allowances or deferred annuities, but that their committee should assist the members in obtaining Government annuities, which could be purchased on safer and more advantageous terms.

Jenny Lind Goldschmidt has consented, in response to a memorial, to give a concert, at Liverpool, to the working classes only, but she has expressed a desire that the price of admission should not be lower than half-a-crown. The arrangement, it is said, is in course of being carried out, and the concert will probably take place in a week or two, at St. George's Hall. An arrangement has been effected with Mr. Mitchell, by which Madame Jenny Goldschmidt Lind will appear in two grand concerts in St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich, on Tuesday the 5th, and Thursday the 7th of February next.

One of the principal officials of the Office of Works has disappeared, under very distressing circumstances. The gentleman in question left the office on Monday evening about six o'clock, and arrived at home at ten, and left his house again at two o'clock in the morning, from which time to the present no trace of him has been ascertained. A letter was received by his mother without date or address, merely stating that he was well, but without giving any clue to his whereabouts, or his reasons for absenting himself. From the statements of his friends, it appears that he has for some time been in a very excited and nervous state, and they are very apprehensive that his mind has become affected.

The Roman Catholic School at Prior-park, near Bath, has been broken up, or rather it has broken down beneath a load of debt. Park-college was continually in difficulties, and the burthen of the debt upon the concern, upwards of 30,000*l.*, we believe, has been shifted from the shoulders of one zealous Roman Catholic to another, but though the day of reckoning has been deferred, it has not been avoided. The catastrophe has come at last. We hear that last week a levy was made on the premises by the sheriff for a year and a half's interest on the mortgage debt; all the students, in consequence, have been sent to their homes, and the farm and other servants have been discharged.—*Sherborne Journal*.

At a meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works, on Friday, Mr. Woolrych, formerly Secretary to the old Sewers Commission, was elected Clerk to the Board. The first proceeding in the election was to strike out the names of all candidates not lawyers; then the twenty-two names remaining were reduced to six—those of Mr. Curling, Mr. Woolrych, Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. E. R. Cook, Mr. J. F. Isaacson, and Mr. George Coode. These names were then put several times, and the name having the lowest number of votes struck out. The result was, that at the last poll, Mr. Woolrych obtained twenty-three, and Mr. Wilkinson nineteen votes. After this, Mr. Woolrych was formally elected by thirty-four out of forty-five, and took his seat at the Board as Clerk.

The Committee of Investigation of the Eastern Counties Railway have issued their statement with regard to Mr. Waddington's answer to their original report. After reviewing each of Mr. Waddington's pleas, the committee reassert the validity of all the charges made in their report, and conclude by contending that the following have been fully proved—namely, that the dividends declared half-yearly have been from untrue accounts; that the permanent way has been neglected so as to cause great loss and scandal to the company; that 200,000*l.* has been illegally lent to the Eastern Union Company; that an attempt was made improperly to cancel a balance of 31,341*l.* due from the Norfolk Company; that 38,264*l.* laid out chiefly on the Norfolk line, has been charged to the Eastern Counties; that no audit has ever taken place of the stores or locomotive department; that the stores account has never been balanced since 1851; and, finally, that there has been a loss on this account of nearly 50,000*l.*, which has never appeared on the books.—*Times*.

"A railway romance" occurred a few days ago on the Wear Valley Railway (Durham). A gentleman from Birmingham in a first-class carriage had as his *vis-a-vis*, and the only other passenger in that compartment, a blooming lady, answering to the alliterative description of "fat, fair, and forty." The train had scarcely moved 100 yards from the station before the lady suddenly leaped from her seat, and exclaimed to the other passenger, "How dare you, Sir? What do you mean?" The gentleman, astonished, replied that "he did not understand; he had done nothing to harm her." Again and again she sprang from her seat in apparent terror and rage, and declared with vehemence that her neighbour was a "villain, and she would have him taken into custody at the next station." The gentleman protested his innocence, and asked what he had done; but the eccentric lady still kept leaping from her seat, raving against his treatment, till the gentleman decided that she was mad, and resolved on the arrival of the train at the next station to give her into custody, and was about to carry his resolution into action, when she suddenly sprang to the door and screamed

out "Guard! Guard!" at the top of her voice, and presently collected not only the guard, but a crowd of people around her. She protested that the gentleman had improperly pinched her legs, and the gentleman, horrified at the charge, protested with equal vehemence, his perfect innocence. At this juncture, when matters looked serious for the gentleman, the guard happened to recollect that he had placed a basket under the seat of the carriage containing a live goose; and, pulling it out, the mystery was explained, the bird being the criminal. This explanation was received with perfect good humour and satisfaction by the parties concerned, and the train renewed its journey amid the convulsive laughter and applause of the assembled multitude.

It is known that a number of gentlemen propose organising a company under the Limited Liability Act of last session, to purchase the Surrey Zoological Gardens and open them as a place of amusement for the people. From the prospectus of the company and the data upon which the directors base their calculations, the undertaking is likely to result in an important addition to our metropolitan amusements and a large return for the capital employed. The Surrey Gardens have been for a long time a very favourite and paying concern. They are placed in the middle of a densely crowded part of the town, and within easy reach of the more fashionable quarters; and the extent—ten acres—is amply sufficient for almost any species of public entertainment. These advantages the new company intend to develop to their full extent, by the application of increased capital and energy. A new music hall, capable of containing 10,000 persons, is to be erected. M. Jullien is engaged as musical director. Exhibitions and fireworks on a grand scale, and flower shows and various entertainments, will be organised suitable to the season.

### Law and Police.

ROBBING A CHAPEL.—William Spencer, Charles Cochrane, and Henry Draker, three young thieves, were brought up last week before the Southwark police magistrate, charged with stealing a quantity of lead from the roof of the Independent Chapel, Camberwell-green. The policeman said that he was on duty in Gravel-lane, Southwark, when he met the three prisoners. Spencer and Cochrane were carrying a large roll of lead between them, and Draker was close behind them. When they got to a marine store dealer's shop, they all stopped and looked about them for a minute or two. Draker then went into the shop, and as soon as he came out and made a signal to the others, witness and another constable went up and took them all into custody. On the way to the station-house, Draker admitted that they had stolen it from the Independent Chapel, on Camberwell-green, a confession which they also made before the magistrate, who committed each of them to two months' hard labour.

FATHER PETCHERINE is again before the public in connexion with proceedings said to be illegal. A few days since, John Ryan, an Irish labourer, about forty years of age, surrendered to his own recognisances, before Mr. Paynter, at Wandsworth Police-court, to answer the charge of Mr. Herring, the relieving officer of Clapham, for neglecting to maintain his wife, Ann Ryan, whereby she had become chargeable to that parish. It appeared from the evidence that the accused was first brought before the worthy magistrate on Saturday week last. Upon being called on for his defence, he made a long statement, in which he declared that he had never been legally married to the complainant. About five years ago, he was living in Clapham, when one evening a messenger (the widow Wise) came to him and said he was wanted at the monastery in Clapham. He went there, and saw a Miss Williams, who told him widow Haines (the complainant) was inside, and that he had better go in and marry her. He refused to do so, and she told him that he had brought disgrace upon Mrs. Haines, and that he had better go inside, and let Father Petcherine (who was then the officiating priest of the monastery) marry him to the widow. He protested for some time against marrying her, and at last he went inside into a room, where there were Widow Haines, Widow Wise, and Father Petcherine. It was then about eight o'clock at night, and the priest went through some ceremony, which he did not understand. No banns were published, he paid no fees, nor was there any ring or witnesses present. The prisoner, however, said he believed a ring was borrowed from another woman, but he did not see it. He was then told that he was married, and he went his way, and his wife went another. They, however, lived together some time afterwards; but he had been compelled to leave her, in consequence of her conduct. The case was then adjourned, and the prisoner was discharged upon his entering into his own recognisances to appear again. Mr. Frost, the Registrar of Births, Marriages, &c., now attended, with Mr. Herring, and said he belonged to Clapham, in which the monastery was situated, and declared he was never present at a marriage between the prisoner and the complainant. Mr. Paynter said it was clear, after the evidence that had been adduced, that an illegal marriage had been performed, and therefore the complainant had no claim whatever upon the prisoner.

IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL CASE.—A recent trial in the Court of Queen's Bench of an insurance case at Lloyd's has excited much attention, the verdict apparently being little calculated to increase the confidence of mercantile men, whether at home or abroad, in appealing to English law upon points which depend in any way upon commercial custom. Mr. Engelhardt, of London, on account of the Netherlands sugar refinery in Amsterdam, bought of Messrs. Goodall,

Chilton, and Co., a cargo of sugar which had just arrived off Plymouth from Bahia. On the cargo reaching Amsterdam it was found to be damaged. Lloyd's agent at that place immediately took the usual steps on the part of the underwriters; the injury was duly ascertained to have been caused by seawater; and the captain made the requisite declaration that it was owing "solely to the labouring of the ship and the gales encountered during the voyage." The loss amounted to 1,568*l.*, or about 19 per cent. The underwriters for some time took no notice of the claim, but after a lapse of three months announced that they would contest it. An action was accordingly brought against them in the Court of Queen's Bench. The ground of resistance was, that, instead of the sugar having been damaged by the voyage, it was in a bad state at the time it was shipped. The bill of lading disproved this, since it certified that the sugar had been "shipped in good order and well-conditioned;" but Lord Campbell ruled that "this was no evidence at all against the underwriters," and hence as Mr. Engelhardt had not summoned from Bahia the shippers (who have since failed and left the place) or witnesses from the plantations where the sugar was grown, the jury declared the claim to be invalid, and the underwriters free from all liability. The case was especially hard, because on no interpretation of it should the loss have fallen upon the buyers of the sugar. Either the damage occurred during the voyage and the underwriters were liable, or the sugar purchased of Messrs. Goodall, Chilton, and Co., on the faith of a clean bill of lading, was not what it was represented to be. Under these circumstances, Mr. Engelhardt has drawn up a narrative of the proceedings, pointing out to his brother merchants the serious results involved in the decision.

### Literature.

#### BIBLICAL WORKS.

*A General Survey of the History of the Canon of the New Testament, during the First Four Centuries.* By BROOKE FOSS WESTCOTT, M.A. [Cambridge: Macmillan and Co.] To many of our readers, the name of Mr. Westcott is already well-known, as that of one of the most able and cultivated of the younger theologians in the English Episcopal Church. His "Elements of the Gospel Harmony" has been highly appreciated by the more scholarly of every section of English Christianity; and it has been eagerly anticipated that such a writer would valuably serve his generation, by the full consecration of his powers and learning to biblical literature. The work before us will confirm its author's reputation, and satisfy the hopes formed respecting him. It is no dry and bald collection of facts and authorities,—no mere reproduction of materials accessible in other well-known works. The subject would seem to the superficial to be insusceptible of other treatment than the simple comparison of early testimonies, and the completion of a series of the recognised catalogues of the sacred books. Mr. Westcott, however, has an original and large conception of a history of the Canon, which has sprung from a deep spiritual, as well as a learned, perception, of "the connexion of the written Word with the living Body of Christ." He has endeavoured "to connect the history of the New Testament Canon with the growth and consolidation of the Catholic Church, and to point out the relation existing between the amount of evidence for the authenticity of its component parts, and the whole mass of Christian literature." This method leaves to another occasion "the inquiry into the mutual connexions and essential unity" of the books composing the New Testament; and, in the present work, they are dealt with as a whole, and on purely historical grounds. Such a plan has required the exercise of higher intellectual faculties, and has given to the Christian heart freer play, than often is the case in the treatment of such a subject; and, besides this, and more than all other praise, the conception of the work and the discrimination and learning with which it is executed, adapt it, most thoroughly and valuably, to the present state and forms of controversy on the subjects to which it relates. Mr. Westcott's Introduction presents a general view of the difficulties which impeded the formation of the Canon, and which now affect its *Proof*; while showing that it was generally recognised at the close of the second century, and that it rests on the combined judgment of the Churches. He then divides his History into three periods: the first, extending from A.D. 70 to 170, includes the Age of the Apostolic Fathers, and of the Greek Apologists. The relations of the Apostolic Fathers to the teaching of the Apostles, and then, to the Canon, are so



carefully and candidly investigated, that a sure, even if slight, historic basis is irrevocably taken possession of for the common Canon of the Churches. We do not say Mr. Westcott has brought new materials of value to this early part of his subject; but he has certainly made the materials more fully and surely sustain the conclusions it is desired to rest on them. In writing of the Age of the Greek Apologists, the author gives a vivid view of the Christian literature of the half-century, A.D. 120-170: and its bearing on the argument is, to establish the facts, that, up to this period, only one book of the New Testament remains unnoticed; and that only one apocryphal book, and that doubtfully, had been placed within the limits of the Canon. And here a few sentences will exhibit something of the spirit and aim of the work:—

"Nor is this all: it has been shown also that the form of Christian doctrine current throughout the Church, as represented by men most widely differing in national characteristics, in books of the most varied aim and composition, is measured exactly by the Apostolic Canon. It has been shown that this exact coincidence between the scriptural rule and the traditional belief is more perfect and striking in proportion as we apprehend more clearly the differences which coexist in both. It has been shown that the New Testament, in its integrity, gives an adequate explanation of the progress of Christianity in its distinct types, and that there is no reason to believe that at any subsequent time such a creative power was active in the Church as could have called forth writings like those which we receive as Apostolic. They are the rule and not the fruit of its development."

This passage shows the polemical side and argumentative value of the work; and suggests the kind of reply with which it meets (and, as we think, effectively meets) the criticism of the Tubingen school. This argument has, however, to be completed by further inquiries; and, accordingly, the history of the first period is closed with inquiries as to the help of Early Versions in determining the Canon, and as to the testimony of Early Heretics—testimony shown to be wide, uniform, and comprehensive, notwithstanding its fragmentary character. This first period of the history is, of course, the first in importance as in time; and its treatment occupies two-thirds of the volume. Of the remaining portions we must only take room to say, that the subjects comprehensively searched through and through, are, for the second period, A.D. 170-303, The Testimonies of the Churches, and the Testimony of Heretical and Apocryphal Writings:—and for the third period, A.D. 303-397, The History of the Canon in the Age of Diocletian (whose persecution was directed against the Christian Books), and during the Age of Councils. Further, there is an account of the various views on the Canon at the era of the Reformation: and Appendices, on the word *Kanon*,—the Text of the Muratorian Fragment, with Notes,—and a collection of the Chief Catalogues of the New Testament Books during the first eight centuries, in their original texts. The conclusion from these investigations,—a conclusion in which scholars agree,—is stated thus:—

"The whole history of the Canon is itself a striking lesson in the character and conduct of the Providential government of the Church. The recognition of the Apostolic writings as authoritative and complete was partial and progressive, like the formulising of doctrine, and the settling of ecclesiastical order. But each successive step was virtually implied in that which preceded; and the principle by which they were all directed was acknowledged from the first. Thus it is impossible to point to any period as marking the date at which our present Canon was determined. When it first appears, it is presented not as a novelty, but as an ancient tradition. Its limits were fixed in the earliest times by use rather than by criticism; and this use was based on immediate knowledge."

It remains only that we add, that this work belongs to the series of *Theological Manuals*, publishing at Cambridge,—hitherto of the highest character, and promising to be most serviceable to students.

*The Hebrew Text of the Old Testament, Revised from Critical Sources; being an attempt to present a purer and more correct Text than the received one of Van der Hooght.* By SAMUEL DAVIDSON, D.D., of the University of Halle. [London: S. Bagster and Sons.] Here is another work in which Dr. Davidson, of the Lancashire Independent College, vindicates his right to the very foremost place amongst Biblical scholars in England. Only a true scholar can understand what immense learning and untiring research have gone to the preparation of this volume; and only such a scholar could undertake its criticism in detail. Ours must be a humbler task,—that simply of describing its object and contents. In

his Introduction, after some remarks on the fact, that the well-known collations of Hebrew MSS. by Kennicott and De Rossi are as yet destitute of their legitimate fruit,—and other observations on the causes of the inferior progress in the criticism of the Old Testament, as compared with that of the New,—the learned author points out that the received Hebrew text needs a thorough revision, being in many places corrupt; and that, in spite of confessed difficulties, there are materials and instrumentalities for the work, which every sound critic will allow. That which is imperatively needed, he observes, is "the accomplishing for the Old Testament something like what Griesbach did for the New;" a work which "cannot be done at once, or by one individual," but which would be effected, as far as can reasonably be expected, by any individual who should "do as much *proportionately* for the Old Testament, and in the same spirit, as Griesbach did for the New; leaving future scholars to follow up his work, or to do better, as Lachmann and Tischendorf have done after the critic of Jena." Dr. Davidson does not consider Van der Hooght's the best text: he prefers that of J. H. Michaelis. But Kennicott, Hahn, Rosenmüller, and Theile, having reprinted that of Van der Hooght, it is now the firmly established *Textus Receptus*. It was not till 1821, that anything was done, says our author, worthy of being considered a proper attempt at a standard text: and Hamilton's *Codex Criticus* had the honour of commencing this work, in a manner "creditable to the learning and industry of its author." But that attempt was of narrow limits, and in many respects exceedingly defective. Dr. Davidson's is "a more ambitious attempt to exhibit a standard text according to the best authorities;" and he has gone greatly beyond and apart from the plan and efforts of Hamilton. The Hebrew text itself is not printed in this volume; it merely prints the various readings collected by the author, under the heads of book, chapter, and verse. "Brevity and condensation," have been studied; but the method on which the readings, and the authorities by which they are sustained, are arranged, is simple and intelligible. The list of authorities made use of, cannot be reprinted here; but it is proper to say, that it appears to comprise all sources accessible to the critical scholar. Very modestly, Dr. Davidson says of his work, "it is far from being perfect and complete." Probably no one else can so readily detect the imperfections of which his own learning is conscious. We feel that the Old Testament student must be deeply indebted to him for the patient, toilsome, and faithful labour bestowed on this valuable volume; but he will find his reward in his own consciousness of having helped, as few could help, to satisfy a confessed and urgent want.

*The Book of Genesis according to the Version of the LXX.* Translated into English; with Notes, &c., by the Hon. and Rev. HENRY E. J. HOWARD, D.D., Dean of Lichfield. [Cambridge: Macmillan and Co.] The author explains that the time and place of this publication have been mainly determined by the announcement, at Cambridge, that a part of the book of Genesis, in the Septuagint version, will form a subject of examination for candidates for Theological honours this spring. He also hopes it may be useful to "the younger clergy," who often, "after taking up the LXX. are tempted to lay it down with a feeling of dissatisfaction and perplexity, through meeting with discrepancies which they have not the means at hand, or the leisure, to reconcile for themselves." The plan of the work is, first, to translate carefully and literally the Septuagint text; secondly, to print at length and successively, all the *omissions* as compared with the Hebrew; thirdly, similarly to produce the *insertions*; and fourthly, to add Notes on the passages in which it differs from our authorised translation. This is a good guide and specimen, for an intelligent study of that earliest of all translations, which the New Testament writers themselves used in quotation of the elder Scriptures; and justly does Dr. Howard say, that, "Supposing the plan here sketched out to be filled up hereafter by some one fully competent to the task, possessing an accurate knowledge of the Greek and Hebrew languages, and of the Semitic tongues akin to the latter, familiar with the results of modern research, as well as with Classical, Rabbinical, and Patristic literature, and endowed with a sound critical judgment for the regulation of these acquirements—a very noble work indeed might be produced." We would add to this, the expression of our own earnest desire, that Dr. Howard, who has performed the task so well for the book of Genesis, would carry it patiently forward throughout the whole LXX. version. The translation throws great light on special passages; and the Notes—always written as clearly as they are briefly—contain no little amount of interesting and useful information, as well as elucidations of particular words and phrases. Any student of Genesis, who cannot bring large scholarship to his aid, will derive con-

siderable advantage in the illustration of its text from this excellent volume of the Dean of Lichfield's.

*The Family Commentary; or, the New Testament, with Notes adapted to the Use of Family Worship.* By Rev. T. RAVEN, M.A. [London: James Blackwood.] This is the authorised version of the New Testament, divided into short sections for reading at domestic worship, with brief and simple practical comments. We cannot say that it strikes us as an altogether successful contribution to the family use of the Scriptures. It has no direct exposition of the text—nothing really interpretative: and though the author professes to have taken "great care to make the annotations harmonise with the sense of the original text, according to the clearest lights which have been thrown upon it," we must declare plainly, that the annotations on several passages we have examined in the Romans and Ephesians, appear to us not only superficial, but positively misleading. The remarks, too, are often wanting in the point and weightiness which alone can render such practical observations interesting and profitable. Otherwise, the design is good, and the spirit of its execution is intelligent and evangelical: in the absence of other aids, it may be helpful to plain people.

*The New Testament Commentary and Prayer Book.* By Rev. JOSEPH FLETCHER, of Christchurch. [London: Tallant and Allen.] This is a work of similar design, but of more merit than the preceding. By an accident for which we are altogether unable to account, its numbers—for it has been published in numbers, and whether completed we do not know,—have been laid aside in a very out-of-the-way place, and have only last week drawn our attention. It contains, first, the text of the New Testament, with an Exposition, arranged on the plan of Job Orton, in a similar work on the Old Testament,—that is, by an ingenious and careful infusion of the expository remarks into the text itself, so as neither to alter and weaken that text by paraphrase, nor to interrupt its regular progress. By means of *italics*, the exposition is made distinct from the sacred word, yet it reads in union with it as one narrative or statement. A sentence or two will be better than all explanation.

"12. And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out, from the court of the Gentiles, all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money-changers, that is, those who exchanged Roman money for Jewish coin: the latter being required for temple purposes, and the seats of them that sold doves, for temple offerings. 13. And said unto them, It is written (Isaiah lvi. 7), My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves; by converting it into a market, where, under cover of sacredness, all manner of fraud is practised. 14. And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them: so that the mart of selfishness was converted, for the time, into a home of mercy."

This plan of exposition requires great attention to the exact requirements of the text; this Mr. Fletcher has evidently paid, and his remarks, while disclosing an intimate acquaintance with the Scriptures, also represent vastly more learning, information, and painstaking labour, than the pages of the work show to the uncritical eye.

Secondly, the author appends a few devotional and practical Reflections; and these are always well-considered, pithy, suggestive, and spiritually-quickening. Lastly, there are appropriate Prayers, for the use of those not accustomed to offer free prayer in the family. We believe the work is admirably adapted to increase an accurate and profitable knowledge of the Scriptures, and to foster a healthy home-piety. We regret not to have commended it to our readers long ago.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

- Analytical Concordance to the Holy Scriptures. R. Griffin and Co.
- Enquire Within upon Everything. Houlston and Stoneman.
- Archer Butler's Sermons. Second Series. Macmillan and Co.
- The Nature of the Atonement. Ibid.
- Goodwin's Hulsean Lectures. Deighton, Bell, and Co.
- The Bush Boys. D. Bogue.
- Barnes on Science and Theology. Knight and Son.
- Jeanne de Vaudreine. J. Nisbet and Co.
- Studies in English Poetry. A. Hall and Co.
- Holidays at the Cottage. Shepherd and Elliot.
- Flowers from Many Lands. Religious Tract Society.
- The Polish Question. Chapman and Hall.
- Lady Mary and her Nurse. A. Hall and Co.
- Annals of Christian Martyrdom. Religious Tract Society.
- Mexico and its Religion. S. Low, Son, and Co.
- The History of Joseph. William Freeman.
- Family Friend, 1855. Ward and Lock.
- The British Controversialist, 1855. Houlston and Stoneman.
- The Lump of Gold. G. Routledge and Co.
- The Home School. Paton and Ritchie.
- The Message of Christianity. J. Nisbet and Co.
- Life of Mrs. Opie. Religious Tract Society.
- Emblems from Eden. Ibid.
- The Emperor's Vigil. G. Routledge and Co.
- Fallacies of the Faith. C. Fox.
- Brazil Viewed through a Naval Glass. Two Parts. Longman and Co.
- The Political Annual, 1856. William Freeman.
- The Hive and its Commonwealth. R. J. Ford and Son.
- How to Save Half your Coals. Binns and Goodwin.
- A Century of Sayings. W. and F. G. Cash.
- A Praying Church. J. Snow.



## SPENCER'S PSYCHOLOGY.

We willingly comply with the request of the writer that the subjoined letter may appear in our literary department, rather than under the usual head of "Correspondence."

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—It was but yesterday that I received the number of the *Nonconformist* containing a review of *The Principles of Psychology*. But for this delay, I should ere now have troubled you with a letter on the subject.

In the preface to the work I have stated that disturbed health obliged me to desist from writing a "Summary and Conclusion;" and I have expressed my regret for this on the ground that "in the absence of explanation, some misunderstanding may arise concerning the implications—ontological and other—which many will think manifest." Considering this hint, I think your reviewer has shown a want of due caution—not to use any stronger phrase—in attributing to me positive atheism. It is true that he has qualified his statement by saying, "we believe, or rather presume, that he will calmly and philosophically accept and maintain these conclusions." But presented as his statement is, in all the consciousness of italics and capitals, this qualification will not prevent most readers from carrying away the impression that the non-existence of the Deity is either distinctly asserted by me, or is tacitly implied in some quite unquestionable way. Now, not only have I nowhere expressed any such conclusion, but I affirm that no such conclusion is deducible from the general tenor of the book. I hold, in common with most men who have studied the matter to the bottom, that the existence of a Deity can neither be proved nor disproved. In the "Summary and Conclusion," which I was obliged to leave unwritten, I purposed showing that one of the corollaries deducible from the work as a whole, is, that the only things—subjective or objective—that are really cognisable by the human intellect, are *relations*; and that the things between which the relations subsist—in the one case sensations, and in the other the things which produce the sensations—transcend all analysis and can never be understood; in other words, that both in the external and internal worlds, science finally brings us down to a mystery that must for ever remain insoluble. This doctrine is in complete harmony with that held by the greatest of living orthodox metaphysicians—Sir William Hamilton; who, in his "Philosophy of the Unconditioned," shows that a knowledge of the absolute is impossible to man. Though it is an unavoidable corollary from this, that man can never know anything about the ultimate cause of things, yet Sir William Hamilton is not therefore charged with Atheism.

I am, Sir, faithfully yours,  
HERBERT SPENCER.

Jan. 19, 1856.

## Gleanings.

The admissions to the Crystal Palace last week were 5,074.

A marriage was celebrated at the French dépôt, Kamiesch, a few weeks since!

The visitors to the Paris Exposition and the Palace of Fine Arts were 4,533,464, the receipts 2,941,668 francs.

The Orleans Railway Company have just introduced on their line, carriages with beds, for the conveyance of invalids.

"No manufacturer," says the Master Cutler of Sheffield, "who makes good articles, has any chance of ever obtaining a Government contract for cutlery."

The following laconic advertisement appeared in the *Manchester Guardian* of Saturday last: "Heb! Tumas!—You are wanted at Manchester."

Mr. James Dale, Newcastle, has purchased from the Corporation the whole of the old clothing belonging to the police force, and presented it to the Ragged School.

Messrs. Crook and Co., contractors, have commenced, at the eastern end of Leadenhall-street, laying down a specimen of cast-iron carriage-way pavement. Similar pavement is, it is said, in successful use in America.

A dame was asked "When a gentleman and lady quarrel, and each considers the other at fault, which of the two ought to be the first to advance towards a reconciliation?" Her answer was, "The best-hearted and wisest of the two."

A lady playing on the piano, being called upon for a dead march, asked a professor of music what march she should play. "Any one you please," he replied; "for any march you play will be a dead one, as you are sure to murder it."

A new church has been built within the gaol at Bristol for the use of the prisoners. It has been erected by the labour of the prisoners, and the expense of the building has been defrayed by the proceeds of their industry.—*Building News*.

The London General Omnibus Company offer a premium of 100*l*. for the best design and specification for an omnibus, that, with the same weight as at present, will afford increased space, accommodation, and comfort to the public.

Mr. Russell, the *Times*' correspondent, is now in London. Never was a man so bidden to gatherings of the wealthy. In the midst of all these brilliant festivities, the proposition of a dinner to be given to him by his brethren of the press will not be the least welcome.

Lablache was recently introduced, at St. Petersburg, to General Todleben, by a chamberlain of the court. Lablache, with the utmost calmness and aplomb, addressed him: "General," he began, "my profession throws me into all camps, often into those of your enemies; but I thank fate for the opportunity of shaking hands with a man whose renown is as great amongst his enemies as amongst his fellow-

citizens. Nothing could make me more welcome in Paris *salons* than to be able to speak from personal knowledge of you."

If peace be secured, the *Athenæum* hopes to see the pacification of Europe celebrated by two grand monuments. England—represented by her people and her army—should ask "permission to erect her trophy in Paris. France would undoubtedly respond, and erect a corresponding trophy in London."

Mr. Barnes, of Poulton, Lancashire, has a cat and a donkey between whom a mutual attachment subsists. The other day, pussy was striving in vain to gain admission at a door; whereupon her admirer left off grazing on the road, and, walking over to the house, lifted the latch with his snout, and shoved the door open!

At a general *réunion* of French savans at the house of M. Leverrier, on Monday, much interest was occasioned by the famous glass, now nearly finished, to complete which M. Arago obtained from the Chamber of Representatives 100,000 francs, and by which, said the illustrious astronomer, "we shall be able at last to see the moon, as we see Montmartre from the Boulevard Italien."

In Westmoreland it is usual, at Christmas, for the farmers to kill a sheep for their own use, on which occasion, when the butcher inquires if they want any meat against Christmas, the reply is, "Nay, I think not; I think of killing myself!" A butcher called on a farmer of his acquaintance in the usual manner, saying, "Will you want a bit of meat, or ye'll kill yersef, this Christmas?" "I knee not," replied the farmer, "whether I see kill mysef or tak' a side o' me feyther."—*Carlisle Patriot*.

The enthusiastic Kelmex thus discourses upon the fair sex: "Woman is indeed a bright and beautiful creature. Where she is there is a paradise; where she is not there is a desert. Her smile inspires love, and raises human nature nearer to the immortal source of its being. Her sweet and tender heart gives life and soul to dead and senseless things. She is the ladder by which we climb from earth to heaven. She is the practical teacher of mankind, and the world would be a void without her. She is more a celestial than a terrestrial being—charming and amiable as a girl, dutiful as a wife, and glorious as a mother. She is the balsam of man's life—his faithful counsellor and pillow. She can impart all the pleasures of his career of friendship, all the enjoyments of sense and reason, and all the sweets of life."—[We stop the author here, in order that the reader may draw his breath and try to guess whether Kelmex was a married man or a bachelor.]

Amid a string of "sayings of the late Samuel Rogers," in the *Illustrated News*, we find the following: "I envy no man of my time any saying so much as I envy Lord John Russell that admirable definition of a proverb—the wisdom of many and the wit of one."—"Lady Holland was always lamenting that she had nothing to do—that she did not know what to be at, or how to employ her time. She was one day worse on this subject than ever, and I could not resist recommending her to 'try a novelty—try and do a little good.'"—"I was pleased with what I saw you about this morning," he observed once at Broadstairs to an artist, who naturally expected from such a commencement some reference to the labours of his pencil; "I was greatly pleased: I saw you brushing your own coat. A gentleman who can brush his own coat is very independent."—"Whenever Lady Holland hears that a person of any consequence has said an ill word of her, she immediately invites him to dinner."—"Lord Holland came to Lord Lansdowne a short time before his death, and showed him the epitaph he had written on himself. It ran in this way: 'Here lies Henry Vassall Fox, Lord Holland—with all his titles—who was drowned sitting in his elbow chair.' This was in some degree true; he died of water in the chest."—"There is a couplet in Cowper which I admire exceedingly—

'Knowledge is proud that he has learned so much,  
Wisdom is humble that he knows no more.'

"I was observing one day to Sydney Smith that I should not sit again for my portrait unless I was taken in an attitude of prayer. 'Yes,' said Sydney, who was even readier than Luttrell, 'yes, with your face in your hat.'"

## Obituary.

DEATH OF THE REV. JOHN BRANCH.—We regret to record the death of the Rev. John Branch, pastor of the Baptist Church meeting in Church-street Chapel, Blackfriars. This melancholy event took place somewhat suddenly. On Sunday week, Mr. Branch preached as usual, and apparently in his usual health. During the subsequent week, he employed himself with wonted activity in benevolent pursuits. On Saturday, at noon, he breathed his last; death being ascribed to asthma connected with disease of the heart, from which he was known to suffer. He had not attained his fiftieth year. The career of this estimable Christian labourer (says the *Patriot*), though neither brilliant nor protracted, was more than ordinarily laborious and useful. Relinquishing business in middle-life, he became a City Missionary in connexion with the London City Mission. While thus engaged, his piety and talents attracted the notice of Mr. George Hitchcock; at whose request he occupied for a length of time, what may be designated as the office of domestic chaplain to that gentleman's numerous establishment in St. Paul's-churchyard. In like manner, his devoted labours among the poor, the ignorant, and the abandoned, drew the attention, and engaged the confidence and esteem, of the Earl of Shaftesbury and other eminent Christian philanthropists; and he eventually became the Superin-

tendent of the Missionaries of the London City Mission. While thus occupied, he was called to be the pastor of the Baptist Church in Waterloo-road, where he developed features of moral and intellectual character which impressed the sister Church in Church-street, Blackfriars, with the importance of securing his services for the revival of that depressed Christian community. Mr. Branch saw it to be his duty to accept this invitation; and the results were such as to vindicate the steps taken on both sides. The chapel, which had been comparatively deserted, was speedily filled; and though, in the interval, there came a preacher more popular than any man on that side of the river since William Jay first startled the town in Surrey Chapel, yet, the Church and congregation which Mr. Branch found weak and wasted, he has, though called thus suddenly away, left comparatively strong, numerous, and flourishing. The funeral of the deceased took place on Friday at Abney-park Cemetery. The Rev. John Robinson (of the Church of England), Secretary of the London City Mission, delivered a funeral discourse on the occasion. On Sunday, the Rev. Robert Ainslie, formerly secretary to the same society, preached the funeral sermon at Church-street Chapel.

JOSEPH HAYDON, to whom Government have just granted a pension of 25*l*. per annum, expired on Thursday. The State will thus effect a saving of 1*s*. 4*d*. per diem.

THE DOWAGER COUNTESS OF ERROLL, daughter of the late King William IV., died on Thursday forenoon, at Edinburgh, while en route to London to attend the sick-bed of her brother, Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence. The Countess died from congestion of the brain.

THE REV. SPEDDING CURWEN.—On Wednesday last the remains of this honoured minister of the Gospel were consigned to their last earthly resting-place in the cemetery at Reading. The affection of his people, among whom he had exercised a ripened ministry for the last seventeen years, had suggested the assembling together, on this occasion, of the ministers of the County Association, and the deacons of sister churches in the town. The service in the chapel—which was crowded with those who had felt for many years the influence of his able ministrations and of his affectionate spirit—is spoken of, by ministers who were present, as one of the most affecting and memorable they had witnessed. The Revs. Messrs. Lepine, Winzar, Hayden, Rowlands, Fairbrother, and Legg, took part in the service. Among the pall-bearers were three clergymen of the Church of England. This was honourable to them as well as to him. For Mr. Curwen was one who, in early youth, declined a good offer of Church preferment, and left the Establishment from principle. To his dissenting principles he held fast through life, and never shrunk from defending them when he saw just occasion. During his eleven years' pastorate at Frome, in Somersetshire, he, like his successor there, at the present day, was forced into the arena of ecclesiastical conflict. His "Reply to the Unprovoked and Angry Charges of the Curate of Frome" ran through three editions in a few weeks; and, although it was very rapidly prepared, it manifests a fulness of information, a purity of style, and a keenness of well-deserved satire which showed him possessed of no mean literary power. He preferred, however, the more retired and peaceful paths of ministerial peacefulness. He was, indeed, "the servant of all." He made no distinction between high and low, in his offices of sympathy and aid. Those especially who were privileged to receive from him letters of counsel or consolation, will remember with what singleness of purpose, and with what painstaking he gave himself wholly to the cases which came before him. "As a man," said Dr. Tidman, in the funeral sermon, "he was kind and generous, incapable of a mean or selfish action. As a preacher, his style was singularly judicious, chaste, and often beautiful." His lengthened ministry was more than ordinarily fruitful in the conversion of souls. What he was as a friend, we can safely leave to be told by that large circle who had felt the warmth of his genial heart.

## BIRTHS.

Jan. 13, the wife of Mr. ROBERT BEWLAKE, of Woolwich, Kent, of a daughter.

Jan. 19, at 21, Sutherland-square, Waltham, the wife of the Rev. EDWARD BEWLAKE, of a son.

Jan. 19, at Carlton le Moorland, Lincolnshire, Mrs. CHARLES WILLIAMS, of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

Jan. 9, at the Registrar's Office, Bridgnorth, Mr. H. L. TILLY, to MARY ANNE, daughter of W. SOUTHAM, Esq., both of Bridgnorth.

Jan. 16, at Craven Chapel, London, by the Rev. Chasman Beadle, Mr. D. SCHMIDT, draper, &c., to MARY, second daughter of Mr. GREGORY, both of Barlet, Middlesex.

At Paris, Sir HENRY MEUX, Bart., M.P., of Theobald's-park, Hertfordshire, to LOUISA CAMOISNE, daughter of the Right Hon. Lord ERNEST BRUCE, M.P.

## DEATHS.

Jan. 9, at the house of his eldest son, the Rev. E. Davies, Lavenham, Suffolk, THOMAS DAVIES, aged seventy-six. It may be interesting to know that John Smith, the Martyr of Demerara, was apprenticed to the deceased, and received his first religious impressions while under his care.

Jan. 13, at 99, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, Mrs. PINCKARD, widow of the late JOSEPH PINCKARD, Esq., aged ninety-two.

Jan. 14, at No. 4, Bond-street, Pentonville, Wm. COOK, Esq., manager in London of the Scottish Equitable Life Assurance Society, formerly Civil Commissioner of the Niger Expedition, and Commander of the barque Cambria at the rescue of the crew and passengers of the Kent, East Indiaman, aged sixty-eight.

Jan. 14, JANE, the wife of Mr. W. LAMBERT, 10, Upper Islington-terrace.

Jan. 15, at her house in Hertford-street, Mayfair, the Countess of STRADBROKE, aged eighty-six.

Jan. 15, at Clapton, after a lingering illness, Mr. WILLIAM FIELDWICK, aged seventy-three.

Jan. 15, JOSEPH DOWSON, Esq., of Champion-hill, Camberwell, Surrey, aged seventy-five.

Jan. 18, at Falmouth, BRISABETH, the beloved wife of the Rev. S. B. BOOTH, Pastor of the Baptist Church, aged twenty-seven.

Jan. 16, Miss BROOKES, of Finsbury-circus, aged forty-nine.



Jan. 16, at her residence, in the Park, Nottingham, Jane, the wife of the Rev. J. A. Edwards, Baptist Minister, and daughter of the late Dr. STEADMAN, of Bradford, Yorkshire.

Jan. 18, at 5, Ave Maria-lane, Ludgate-street, Mr. HENRY BIRD, aged seventy-two.

Jan. 16, at the residence of his mother, 18, Tanbridge-place, from a severe attack of bronchitis, THOMAS TAYLOR FULLER, of No. 161, Albany-street, Regent's-park, aged forty-two.

Jan. 16, at the house of the Rev. W. Willan, Leeds, the Rev. JONATHAN CROWTHER, classical tutor of the Wesleyan Theological Institution, Didsbury, aged sixty-two.

Jan. 17, at Ashburton, JOHN WINDEATT, Esq., of Totnes, aged seventy-four. Mr. Windeatt was the surviving founder of the Sunday-school in connexion with the Independent Church, Totnes, which school has just entered on its jubilee year.

Jan. 17, at No. 7, Scarborough-parade, York, HEYBETTA HOPE, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Dr. HUNTER, Professor of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh, and one of the ministers of the Tron Church.

Jan. 19, at Huntingdon, ELIZABETH, the beloved eldest daughter of MICHAEL FOSTER, Esq., aged eighteen.

Jan. 19, at Bonn, on the Rhine, WILLIAM, eldest son of the Right Hon. EDWARD STREUTT, M.P., aged seventeen.

Jan. 20, at the residence of her son-in-law, Ashley-place, Mrs. FIDELINE, the venerable mother of Mrs. S. C. HALL, in her eighty-third year.

Jan. 20, at his house, Felcourt Lodge, Torquay, JOHN CLERMONT, Esq., who held the office of Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons for fifty years, aged seventy-six.

## Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The past has been rather a memorable week in the history of the Money Market. On Thursday the announcement of the unconditional acceptance of the Austrian ultimatum by Russia caused great excitement, under the influence of which Consols advanced 3 per cent., and stood at one time at 90½. Subsequently there was a reaction of 1 per cent., when it was found that the propositions were only adopted as "a basis of negotiations." The extent of the rise in the Funds is far below what has been witnessed on other similar occasions; which is attributed to the high prices compared with the quotations at the conclusion of former hostilities. On Friday, there was an improvement of ½ per cent., and the Funds have daily fluctuated according to the tenour of news from Vienna—the market being very sensitive. Both on Monday and this morning prices were flat. To-day the decline did not exceed ½ per cent. A recovery afterwards took place, and at the close the reduction from the final quotations of yesterday was trifling, amounting to scarcely ½ per cent. Late in the afternoon a large purchase imparted steadiness. The market is evidently well supported at the late rise. In the hope that an armistice will be shortly announced, and peace ere long concluded, numerous speculators for higher prices are beginning to appear in the various Stock Exchange markets. The confident spirit which pervades the Paris Bourse seems to exercise some influence upon this side. Consols, which closed yesterday at 90 for the 7th Feb., opened this morning at 89½ to ½, receded to 89½ to ½, advanced to 90 to ½, and were finally quoted 89½ to 90. For Money the latest price was 89½ to ½. Exchequer-bills and India Bonds have advanced to 4s. discount to par. Exchequer Bonds were also better, at 97½ to ½.

Out of doors the supply of money continues liberal, and the market is easier, though late rates are generally maintained. In the Stock Exchange to-day money was more wanted, and commanded 5 per cent. on Government stocks.

The French Funds improved 4½ per cent. on the pacific intelligence; previously to which, they had been firm, owing to the report in the *Moniteur* from the French Finance Minister, and from an advance on this side. There has since been somewhat of a decline. To-day, the Three per Cent. Rentes closed ½ to ½ per cent. higher than yesterday.

In Foreign Stocks, there has been a large business doing at an advance. Owing to increased purchases on the intelligence from Vienna, Turkish Six per Cents. rose 5 per cent., and touched 87½; they are now rather lower. Russian and Sardinian have been in demand, and are 2 better. An improvement has also occurred in the following: Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 2; Ditto Three per Cents., Austrian, Belgian, Danish Five, Portuguese Four, and Spanish Three per Cents., 1; Ditto Deferred, ½. Peruvian Dollar Bonds are now quoted in the Official List.

Railways have participated in the general rise. Great Western were done as high as 55½; London and North-Western, 97; Midland, 66½; they closed a little flatter, and to-day no alteration has occurred. French Shares have improved this week from 2½ to 3½ 10s.

The arrivals of specie last week amounted to 396,000l. It was all sent out of the country. But under present circumstances the drain of bullion excites subordinate interest.

The trade reports from the provincial towns for the past week show that the news from Vienna has created considerable animation. At Manchester the notification was followed by a sudden influx of telegraphic orders from all parts, but although business was carried on to a large extent, it was partly checked

by the demands of holders, and the excitement having thus been allowed time to subside, a calmer tone subsequently prevailed. At Birmingham it is considered the restoration of peace would favourably influence prices, since the demand for Government armaments does not compensate for the prohibition of the export of iron to the north of Europe, and the general limitation of domestic undertakings. For the present, however, the market, which was previously healthy and firm, remains without variation. In the general occupations of the place there is fair employment for the home spring trade, but foreign orders are not so good as had been anticipated. The more favourable expectations lately entertained of the assets of the Lichfield Bank are stated to have been diminished by a defalcation of nearly 8,000l. on the part of a clerk, and other causes. From Nottingham the accounts are very satisfactory, purchases on American account being still kept up, although the wants of that country were supposed to have been fully supplied for the season. In the woollen districts also confidence is well maintained, and in the Irish linen-markets there has been increased activity.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the past week comprised five vessels, two to Port Phillip, two to Hobart Town, and one to Sydney, with an aggregate capacity of 3,419 tons. The rates of freight exhibit scarcely any alteration.

### PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Cent. Consols	89½	90	90	90½	90½	90½
Consols for Ac-						
count	87½	89½	90	90½	90½	90½
3 per Cent. Red.	89½	90	90½	90½	90½	90½
New 3 per Cent.						
Annuities	87½	90	90½	90½	90½	90½
India Stock		219 17		219		
Bank Stock	206½	8		210	210	209½
Exchequer-bills	3 dis	3 dis	1 dis	3 dis	1 dis	
India Bonds	6 dis	2 dis	2 dis	3 dis	par	par
Long Annuities	3½			3½	3 3-16	3 9-16

## The Gazette.

### BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, c. 93, for the week ending on Saturday, the 12th day of Jan., 1856.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.		GOVERNMENT DEPT.	
Notes issued	£24,274,305	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	2,459,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	9,799,305
		Silver Bullion	—
	£24,274,305		£24,274,305
BANKING DEPARTMENT.		GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.	
Proprietors' Capital	£1,558,000	Weighted Annuity	£13,412,459
Reserve	3,330,572	Other Securities	17,415,554
Public Deposits	3,638,609	Notes	4,887,000
Other Deposits	12,967,508	Gold and Silver Coin	617,646
Seven Day and other			
Bills	843,874		
	£26,333,664		£26,333,664

Jan. 17, 1856.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, January 18, 1856.

### BANKRUPTS.

WHITEHEAD, T., Eastcheap, sugar dealer, Jan. 29, Feb. 28; solicitor, Mr. Redpath, Old Jewry-chambers.  
BOOTH, W., late of Church-road, Kingsland, and Deptford, paper maché manufacturer, Jan. 29, Feb. 28; solicitor, Mr. Vining, Moorgate-street.  
MIRRELL, J., Sun-street, Bishopsgate-street, analytical chemist, Jan. 29, Feb. 28; solicitor, Mr. Smythe, Scarle-street, Lincoln's-inn.  
RICHARDSON, H. W., Banstead, near Epsom, licensed victualler, Jan. 31, March 7; solicitor, Mr. Mackeson, Lincoln's-inn-fields.  
BURN, W., Waltham Holy-cross, Essex, cotton dyer, Jan. 31, March 7; solicitor, Mr. Taylor, Featherstone-buildings, Holborn.  
LOPES, J., Wolverhampton, brewer, Feb. 1 and 23; solicitor, Mr. Hayes, Wolverhampton.  
SALISBURY, W., Birmingham, builder, Feb. 1 and 22; solicitors, Messrs. Hodgson and Allen, Birmingham.  
GASPOY, J. C., Bristol, dealer in parter, Jan. 29, Feb. 25; solicitors, Messrs. Hobbs and Slater, Stafford-on-Avon; and Mr. Bevan, Bristol.  
DOWN, C., Newport, Monmouthshire, grocer, Jan. 29, Feb. 25; solicitors, Mr. Cathcart, Newport; and Messrs. Bevan and Gilling, Bristol.  
BRADLEY, C., Wilmslow, Cheshire, tailor, Jan. 31, Feb. 21; solicitor, Mr. Hall, Manchester.  
HUGHES, C., Holywell, Flintshire, grocer, Jan. 30, Feb. 25; solicitor, Mr. Pattison, Liverpool.  
EDWARDS, J. T., Liverpool, laceman, Jan. 20, Feb. 25; solicitor, Mr. Williams, Liverpool.

### DIVIDENDS.

Feb. 8, E. Butler, York-street, Middlesex Hospital, and Norwood, baker—Feb. 8, J. F. Bentley, Salby, near Welford, and merchant—Feb. 8, T. B. Armstrong, Carpenter-street and Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, fishmonger—Feb. 8, S. Marshall, Austinians, Russia broker—Feb. 8, F. Bickett, Moorgate-street, merchant—Feb. 8, J. Roots, Luton and Snodland, Kent, brickmaker—Feb. 8, J. Travis, Green-bridge, Cane-mill, and Bridge-end, Lancashire, woollen manufacturer—Feb. 8, J. Barber, Manchester, engraver to calico printers—Feb. 12, W. Crampton, Bedford, near Leigh, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer—Feb. 12, T. Southward, Bolton-to-Moors, corn merchant—Feb. 11, T. Hughes, Wednesbury, innkeeper—Feb. 13, R. Heath, W. Welch, and J. H. Barber, late of Tunstall, ironmasters—Feb. 12, G. Simpson, Church Fenton, Yorkshire, chicory merchant—Feb. 9, W. Birks, Sheffield, brush manufacturer—Feb. 8, F. B. Webster, Heckmondwike, blanket manufacturer—Feb. 9, T. Walker, Edwinstowe, Nottinghamshire, licensed victualler—Feb. 8, W. J. Anson, Leeds, cloth merchant—Feb. 11, S. L. Samuel, Liverpool, watch manufacturer—Feb. 21, W. Cumming, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, whitesmith.

### PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Cordingley and Baskrick, Bradford, Yorkshire, plasterers—J. and N. Phillips and Co., Tean and Cheshire, Staffordshire, and elsewhere, and J. Chadwick and Brother, London, small ware manufacturers; as far as regards G. Merton—G. Fotheringham and T. Benton, Erith, builders—Broadbent, McCroben, and Co., Bradford, Yorkshire, merchants—J. Coleman and T. Taylor, Cardiff, ironmongers—Stanley, Morton, and Davis, Sheffield, commission agents—Thorneley, Cole, and Co., Didsbury, Lancashire, gardeners—G. Richardson and J. E. McConnell, Barnham, Essex, farmers—S. Myer and J. Evans, hay dealers—Clay and Nelson, South Shields, brewers—M. Bower and Sons, Kirkcubright, Yorkshire, woollen cloth manufacturers; as far as regards J. Bower—G. Carey and N. W. Morris, Leazes, grocers—D. W. Hemming and W. E. Collard, Gloucester, drapers—Abraham and Co., Liverpool, opticians—Wisely and Macdonald, Manchester, commission agents—E. Fowles and E. Charlton, Boston, Kent, coach proprietors—J. Gardner and H. Lewis, Stroud, hatters—Keyte,

Gunn, and Kidd, Church-court, Old Jewry, silk manufacturers—Saxty, Brothers, Trowbridge and Market Lavington, Wiltshire; as far as regards E. Saxty—Helyoak and Son, Leicester, hosiery—G. N. Luer and E. Bagehot, Langport, Somersetshire, dealers in British timber—Miller, Butler, and Co., Nottingham, hosiery; as far as regards W. Miller, Jan—Smith, Brothers, and Co., King-street, Cheshire, and Ironmonger-lane, railway advertising contractors—V. De Trol and Co., Little Tower-street, Chambers, Custom-house agents—J. Pownall and Sons, Liverpool, and Pownall and Co., Melbourne, merchants; as far as regards W. Pownall—Cartwright and Beddes, Rowley, Worcestershire, linen merchants—A. Thornhill and Sons, Sheffield, awl blade manufacturers; as far as regards M. Thornhill—J. and T. Gardner and W. Stant, Gulliford, printers; as far as regards J. Gardner—G. K. and H. Temple, Brydges-street, Covent-garden, drapers—Barratt and Shaw, Sheffield, horn preserver—M. Orington, J. Jefferys, and J. D. Welch, wholesale warphouses, Cheshire; as far as regards M. Orington—D. Clunie and A. Rogerson, Colham, Shropshire, brickmakers—Stevens and Hancock, Ely—Holland and Gellard, Liverpool, trunk manufacturers—Martin and Waka, Manchester, importers of foreign goods—W. and C. L. Ringrose, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchants; as far as regards C. L. Ringrose—Tyler and Co., Redford-street, Covent-garden, gold lacemen—M. Newton and Son, Manchester, spinners; as far as regards A. Ogden—M. Merryweather and J. Jardison, Albion Hotel, Barnsley—E. W. and T. G. Thompson, and T. Richardson, John-street, Edgeware-road, pawnbrokers—Redfern and Son, Leek, attorneys—Gleason and Turner, Glasgow, cotton yarn merchants—Kelly and Co., Glasgow, cotton brokers; as far as regards W. Kelly, son.

### DECEASED PERSONS.

Hackett, J., Edinburgh, provision dealer, Jan. 20.  
Nicholson, D., Borrowatones, merchant, Jan. 21.  
Kay, M., Edinburgh, milliner, Jan. 20.

### DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

Dickinson, W., Bagley, and Millwall, Poplar, merchant, first div. of 4s. 6d., on Thursday next, and three following Thursdays, at Graham's, Coleman-street—Cobb, W., Maidstone, builder, first div. of 4s., on Thursday next, and three following Thursdays, at Graham's, Coleman-street—Richardson, F. G., Commercial-road, Linchouse, timber merchant, first div. of 1s. 11d., on Thursday next, and three following Thursdays, at Graham's, Coleman-street—Manningham, O., Birmingham, wholesale jeweller, first div. of 6s. 10d., on Thursday next, and two subsequent alternate Thursdays, at Bittleton's, Birmingham—Roberts, H., Dudley, grocer, first div. of 7s. 7d., on Thursday next, and two subsequent alternate Thursdays, at Bittleton's, Birmingham—Allen, J., Birmingham, builder, first div. of 7s. 2d., on Thursday next, and two subsequent alternate Thursdays, at Bittleton's, Birmingham—Raywood, W., Birmingham, grocer, first div. of 7s. 6d., on Thursday next, and two subsequent alternate Thursdays, at Bittleton's, Birmingham—Graham, O. B., Abberley, Worcestershire, apothecary, a further proportion of last div. of 10s., of 1s. 3d., on Thursday next, and two subsequent alternate Thursdays, at Bittleton's, Birmingham—Wesman, P., Long-borough, bleacher, first div. of 10s., on Monday next, and two following Mondays, at Harris's, Nottingham—Fries, W. B., and Edwards, J., Shrewsbury, bankers, fourth div. of 10s., at Christie's, Birmingham—Mayer, S., and Boulton, E. and S., Bristol, and elsewhere, potters, a div. of 1s., any Wednesday, at Acraman's, Bristol.

Tuesday, January 23, 1856.

### BANKRUPTS.

FOSSY, G., Norway-wharf, Millwall, timber merchant, Jan. 20, March 19; solicitors, Messrs. Linklaters and Hankwood, Six-lane.  
ROWLAND, E., and EVANS, T., Coleman-street, New North-road, builders, Jan. 20, March 19; solicitors, Messrs. Lawrence and Co., Old Jewry-chambers.  
CLARK, A., Gate-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, engineer, Jan. 20, March 19; solicitor, Mr. Johnson, Chancery-lane.  
FRASER, J., Lower Thames-street, City, wine merchant, Jan. 20, Feb. 26; solicitors, Messrs. Mardon and Frichard, Christchurch-chambers, Newgate-street.  
LAWRENCE, B. R., Carshalton, Surrey, apothecary, Feb. 1, March 4; solicitor, Mr. Reed, Ironmonger-lane, City.  
CURTIS, E. G., Stratford, Essex, Feb. 1, March 7; solicitors, Messrs. Hilleary, Fenchurch-buildings, Fenchurch-street.  
STRIMSON, A., Birmingham, builder, Feb. 4 and 26; solicitor, Mr. Southall, Birmingham.  
HINTON, W., and MURPHY, S., Pensnett, Staffordshire, builders, Feb. 8 and 29; solicitors, Messrs. Goldcock and Canling, Dudley; and Messrs. Hodgson and Allen, Birmingham.  
BATE, T., Wolverhampton, licensed victualler, Feb. 9 and 29; solicitors, Mr. Walker, Wolverhampton; and Messrs. Mottram and Knight, Birmingham.  
GRIFFITHS, J., Ludlow, Shropshire, carpenter, Feb. 9 and 23; solicitors, Mr. Farnell, Bristol; and Mr. Reece, Birmingham.  
ALLEN, J., and HOLMES, E., Derby, silk throwsters, Feb. 19 and 26; solicitors, Mr. Helm, Derby; and Messrs. Mottram and Knight, Birmingham.  
TAYLOR, J. S., Derby, ironfounder, Feb. 19 and 26; solicitors, Mr. Helm, Derby; and Messrs. Mottram and Knight, Birmingham.  
HURLETON, W. P., Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, innkeeper, Feb. 4, March 3; solicitor, Mr. Towle, Cheltenham.  
AMES, S., Bradford, Yorkshire, grocer, Feb. 5, March 1; solicitors, Mr. Barret, Bradford; and Messrs. Cariss and Cudworth, Leeds.  
MANFIELD, H., Liverpool, fancy toy dealer, Feb. 1 and 28; solicitor, Mr. Dodge, Liverpool.

### DIVIDENDS.

Feb. 15, R. K. Meaden, Walbrook, City, wine and spirit merchant—Feb. 13, J. Digby, Birch, Essex, miller—Feb. 19, W. Riddell and M. T. Raymond, Sherborne-lane, City, merchants—Feb. 12, W. Danks, Daventry, Northamptonshire, grocer—Feb. 14, H. Rose, Jerusalem Coffee-house, City, and York-street, Portman-square, merchant—Feb. 13, S. Isaac, Portsea, Hampshire, hardwareman—Feb. 12, W. H. Burgess, Miles's-lane, City, and Glink-street, Southwark, export oilman—Feb. 13, F. G. Teale (separate estate), Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square, and Blackfriars-road, builder—Feb. 12, L. C. Hertelot and J. Okell, Union-court, Old Broad-street, City, merchants—Feb. 13, J. Okell (separate estate), Union-court, Old Broad-street, and Stettin, Prussia, merchant—Feb. 14, M. Kay, R. Kay, and W. Kay, Haywood, Lancashire, cotton spinners.

### PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

T. Crawshaw, M. Robinson, and T. Holgate, Old Accrington, Lancashire, blacksmiths; as far as regards T. Holgate—W. Sayer and G. Sayer, Stratford, Essex, saddlers—J. Adams, W. Cooper, and T. Barlow, Golms Mills, near Longton, Staffordshire, Potteries, grinders of potters' materials—T. Clifford and J. Gorton, Tong-with-Haugh, Lancashire, soda water manufacturers—J. Jones, B. Sprout, T. Green, W. Taylor, T. Bold, and J. Phillips, Liverpool, ship bread bakers—J. Jones, B. Sprout, T. Green, W. Taylor, and T. Bold, Liverpool, provision merchants—E. G. Allen and T. Page, Pittfield-street, Hoxton, stationers—C. Munford and W. Ossebor, Downham Market, Norfolk, auctioneers—W. Oliver and S. Oliver, Oxford, mercers—J. H. Hartnell and S. S. Lucas, Greenwich, printers—G. Okell and J. Kendall, Manchester, stuff merchants—R. Tucker and J. Deming, Coris Abbas, Dorsetshire, fellmongers—G. Webster and E. Bayley, Newmarket, St. Mary, Suffolk, grocers—B. Vernon and J. V. Davenport, Andley, Staffordshire, surgeons—W. Brown and B. Walker, Bristol, Yorkshire, painters—F. Turner and A. Tillerth, Warwick, photographic artists—J. Curds and J. Richardson, Leeds, upholsters—C. Hissell and W. Clark, Birmingham, gun manufacturers—W. Horton and S. C. Silverwood, Sheffield, manufacturers of skates—E. Board and W. Smith, Shepton Mallet, Somersetshire, plumbers—T. C. Hounsell, W. Hounsell, and W. Schenk, St. John's, Newfoundland, merchants—A. Gould, W. Bishop, J. Broad, T. Bennett, and J. Hirst, Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, malleable iron manufacturers—T. Routledge and T. B. Routledge, Pontefract, Yorkshire, drapers—C. Ullathorne and G. T. Stewart, Liverpool, drapers—J. Scott, J. C. Scott, and R. Sinclair, Greenock, engineers—John Scott and Sons, Greenock, shipbuilders; as far as regards J. Scott—Rachel



Pitt, Maxwelltown, Dumfriesshire; as far as regards her connexion with the Whitehaven Steam Navigation Company.

#### SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

Stewart, J., Forfar, bootmaker, Feb. 1.  
Rutherford, A., stationer, Glasgow, Feb. 4.  
Waddell, J., Kirkintilloch, Dumfriesshire, fletcher, Feb. 2.  
Goldie, G. R., Glasgow, commission merchant, Jan. 29.  
McEwan, A., and McEwan, J., Glasgow, sugar refiners, Feb. 1.

#### DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

Pates, W. H., Wallingford, Berkshire, grocer, first div. of 3s., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Sherwood, S. E., Sellings, near Canterbury, Kent, tailor, first div. of 6s. 8d., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Grant, W. P., Cambridge, bookseller, first div. of 2s., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Winstanley, E. and H. G., Poultry, City, chemists, third div. of 6s. 8d., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Overbury, J., Wootton-under-edge, Gloucestershire, cloth manufacturer, second div. of 3s., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Framp-ton, S., Wimbome Minster, Dorsetshire, butcher, first div. of 6s. 8d., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Williams, H., sen. (separate estate), West Smithfield, tailor, div. of 20s., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Williams, J. (separate estate), West Smithfield, tailor, div. of 20s., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Williams, H., jun. (separate estate), first div. of 12s., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Walker, E., Wisbech St. Peter's, Cambridgeshire, stationer, first div. of 6s., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Williams, H., and Sons, West Smithfield, tailors, first div. of 2s. 4d., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Ball, W. Y., Wood-street, Cheapside, and Holland-street, Blackfriars, wholesale glover, second div. of 3d., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Randall, S., Wellington, Northamptonshire, shoe manufacturer, first div. of 6d., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Fowler, H., Southampton, corn and coal factor, first div. of 5s. 10d., Jan. 22, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Nicholson's, Basinghall-street—Over, E., Barossa-terrace, Bethnal-green, oil and colourman, first div. of 4s. 6d., any Wednesday, at Whitmore's, Basinghall-street—Burn, A., Sackville-street, Piccadilly, and Caroline-place, Pancras-vale, tailor, third div. of 3d., any Wednesday, at Whitmore's, Basinghall-street—Edridge, H. L., Monmouth-road, Baywater, builder, first div. of 1s. 1d., any Wednesday, at Whitmore's, Basinghall-street—Nuttall, J. H., Liverpool, merchant, second div. of 10d., Jan. 23, and any subsequent Wednesday, at Turner's, Liverpool—Gibbs, W. K., Dudley, Worcestershire, provision dealer, second div. of 1d., Jan. 18, and any subsequent Friday, at Whitmore's, Birmingham—Morgan, J. B., and Lewis, J., Ystalyfera Graig, Glamorgan-shire, drapers, div. of 1s. 9d., Jan. 23, and any subsequent Wednesday, at Miller's, Bristol—Hopkins, W., Birmingham, grocer, first div. of 11d., any Thursday, at Christie's, Birmingham.

### Markets.

#### CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Jan. 21.

We had a moderate show of samples of English wheat this morning, but the probable advent of peace produced great dullness in the trade, and although sellers would have taken 4s to 5s per quarter less than on Monday last, the business done was very limited at about this reduction. Holders of foreign wheat were not disposed to lower their demands materially, and transactions were on the most limited scale. Norfolk flour 5s per sack, and American barrels 2s to 3s per barrel cheaper. Barley, beans, and peas dull, and 2s per quarter lower. Oats went off slowly at 1s to 2s per quarter decline upon last Monday's prices. Linseed cakes quite as dear. Linseed dull. Cloverseeds meet with rather more inquiry.

#### BRITISH.

Wheat—	s.	d.
Essex and Kent, Red	74	74
Do White	78	80
Line, Norfolk, and		
Yorkshire Red	72	—
Scotch	72	78
Rye	58	60
Barley mashing (new)	40	42
Distilling	36	38
Malt (pale)	80	84
Beans, Mazagan	40	46
Ticks	—	—
Harrow	—	—
Pigeon	—	—
Peas, White	46	48
Grey	40	42
Maple	40	42
Boilers	48	50
Tares (English)	40	50
Foreign	40	58
Oats (English feed)	26	27
Flour, town made, per		
Sack of 280 lbs.	68	70
Linseed, English	—	—
Baltic	74	76
Black Sea	76	78
Hempseed	50	52
Canaryseed	54	60
Cloverseed, per cwt. of		
112 lbs. English	58	80
German	—	—
French	—	—
American	—	—
Linseed Cakes, 177 0s to 177 10s		
Rape Cake, 71 10s to 81 0s per ton		
Rapeseed, 42 0s to 44 0s per last		

#### FOREIGN.

Wheat—	s.	d.
Dantzic	84	92
Konigsberg, Red	80	88
Pomeranian, Red	80	88
Rostock	80	88
Danish and Holstein	80	84
East Friesland	76	78
Petersburg	72	80
Riga and Archangel	—	—
Polish Odessa	72	74
Marianopolis	82	84
Taganrog	—	—
Egyptian	54	56
American (U.S.)	80	90
Barley, Pomeranian	36	38
Konigsberg	36	40
Danish	36	40
East Friesland	30	32
Egyptian	30	32
Odessa	30	32
Beans—		
Horse	40	42
Pigeon	42	44
Egyptian	39	40
Peas, White	46	48
Oats—		
Dutch	24	22
Jahde	24	29
Danish	24	26
Danish, Yellow feed	26	30
Swedish	26	27
Petersburg	26	27
Flour, per bar. of 160 lbs.		
New York	40	42
Spanish, per sack	60	63
Carawayseed	38	40

SEEDS. LONDON, Monday, Jan. 21.—The trade for cloverseeds and trefails remains without transactions passing; but there is an improving inquiry as to values, without, however, yet leading to actual business, the high values causing buyers to be very cautious in commencing their purchases. Canaryseed is firm, without alteration in value.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10 1/4d to 11d; of household ditto, 8 1/4d to 10d per 4 lbs loaf.

#### BUTCHERS' MEAT, LONDON, Monday, Jan. 21.

There was only a limited show of foreign stock in to-day's market; and the fresh arrivals from Ireland, &c. Liverpool, were confined to 160 beasts. Fair average supplies of beasts were offered from Norfolk in good condition. Owing to the unfavourable state of the weather for slaughtering, and the dullness of the trade in Newgate and Leadenhall, all breeds of beasts were heavy in the extreme, and prices were quite 6d per 8 lbs lower than on Monday last. The highest value of Scots was 4s 6d per 8 lbs. The arrivals of beasts from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire were 2,300 Scots and shorthorns; from other parts of England, 700 of various breeds; and from Scotland, chiefly by railway, 550 horned and polled Scots. The show of sheep was seasonably good, as to number, and of fair average weight. We experienced an unusually dull sale for all breeds, and the quotations were fully 2d per 8 lbs lower than on this day se'nlight. The best old Downs with difficulty realised 4s 8d per 8 lbs. Very few calves were in the market, and the veal trade was somewhat firmer than on Friday. Prices, however, were 2d per 8 lbs lower than on this day se'nlight. Pigs met a very dull inquiry, and the quotations had a downward tendency.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the offal.

Per. Sibs. to which the anal.									
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.
Inf. coarse beasts,	2	10	3	0	Pr. coarsewooled	3	10	4	2
Second quality	3	2	3	6	Prime Southdown	4	4	4	8
Prime large oxen.	3	8	4	0	Lge. coarse calves	4	2	4	1
Prime Scots, &c.	4	2	4	6	Prime small	5	0	5	6
Coarse inf. sheep	2	10	3	2	Large hogs.	3	8	4	0
Second quality:	3	4	3	8	Neat sm. porkers	4	4	5	0
Suckling calves, 22s to 28s; Quarter-old store-pigs, 21s to 27s each;									

Suckling calves, 22s to 28s; Quarter-old store-pigs, 21s to 27s each.

#### NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Jan. 21.

Owing to the mildness of the weather, and the large arrivals of slaughtered meat from the provinces, including Scotland, these markets have been in a most depressed state, and prices almost generally have given way from 2d to 4d per 8 lbs.

#### Per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

Inferior beef	2s	8d	to	3s	2d	Inf. mutton	2s	10d	to	3s	4d
Middling ditto	3s	4d	to	3s	6d	Middling ditto	3s	6d	to	3s	10d
Primelargo	3s	8d	to	3s	10d	Prime ditto	4s	0d	to	4s	4d
Do. small	4s	0d	to	4s	2d	Veal	3s	8d	to	4s	10d
Large pork	3s	6d	to	4s	2d	Small pork	4s	4d	to	5s	2d

#### PRODUCE MARKET, MINCEING-LANE, JAN. 22.

SUGAR.—We have at length to report that we have had a "market" for this article to-day, as large general buyers have come in paying an advance of fully 1s upon the prices of last Friday, but the tone of the market has strengthened beyond that sum. 1,300 hhds of West India have been sold, including the public sale of 200 hhds Barbadoes, which sold from 44s to 49s. 950 bags Mauritius also sold freely in public sale, at 33s 6d to 40s 6d. 1,700 bags Madras were offered, and bought in at high prices. Several parcels of East India and two cargoes of foreign are reported sold by private contract. The refined market is more firm; brown lumps quoted 52s.

COFFEE.—The only public sale consisted of 900 bags native Ceylon. The sound portion was bought in; the damaged, about 600 bags, sold (first class) at 50s 6d to 51s.

COCOA.—176 bags Grenada were offered and bought in at 46s to 48s.

TEA.—The trade buy only what their immediate wants require. From other sources the demand continues limited.

PEPPER.—500 bags Malabar found buyers at 54d.

RICE.—700 tons have been sold to arrive at 3d advance.

COTTON.—1,000 bales sold to-day at previous prices.

IRON.—Scotch pig: The market has been irregular, the nearest quotation is 77s for mixed numbers.

TALLOW.—The market has been steady at 59s.

LINSEED OIL has been sold as low as 38s.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday, Jan. 21.—A limited amount of business was transacted in Irish butter last week. Secondary descriptions of good quality attracted most attention at previous rates. The milder kinds were offered in some instances at a decline of 1s to 2s, and sparingly dealt in. Foreign met a slow sale, and best Dutch was 2s per cwt cheaper. Bacon was in large supply. The demand dull. The market was depressed, and prices 2s lower, chiefly in consequence of the news of peace, and to one cargo from Waterford being damaged by sea-water, and forced off at an allowance of 3s to 5s per cwt. In hams no improvement in demand or value; and in lard no change worth notice, but the tendency was to lower prices.

#### PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Friesland, per cwt.	112	118	Cheshire (new) per cwt	70	84
Kiel	100	120	Cheddar	74	90
Dorset	110	120	Double Gloucester	66	72
Carlisle	108	112	Single ditto	60	70
Waterford	98	102	York Hams	90	108
Cork (new)	100	112	Westmoreland ditto	94	104
Limerick	98	102	Irish ditto	84	90
Sligo	94	108	Wiltshire Bacon (dried)	70	72
Fresh, per dozen	13	18	Irish (green)	60	64

COVENT-GARDEN, Saturday, Jan. 19.—Owing to the unsettled state of the weather the market generally this week has been but indifferently supplied. Pears still consist of winter nells, glout morceau, and colmars. Apples from Bordeaux, in casks holding about two bushels each, fetch from 18s 6d to 21s per cask, or from 1s to 1s 6d per dozen. Chestnuts are 10s per bushel. Spanish nuts fetch from 16s to 20s per bushel, Barcelona from 20s to 22s, almonds 24s, Brazil from 12s to 14s; lemons 6s to 12s per 100. Oranges fetch from 1s to 1s 6d per dozen, or from 3s to 10s per 100. The potato trade is not good, but best samples are scarce, and maintain fair prices. There are large arrivals from Scotland and Yorkshire. What Cornish broccoli has come to hand this week has been excellent, and realised good prices. Spanish onions fetch from 1s to 4s per dozen. Some green French asparagus has just arrived. Lettuce realise from 6d to 9d per score. Cut flowers consist of chrysanthemums, heliotropes, euphorbias, camellias, azaleas, mignonette, Chinese primroses, cyclamens, heaths, and roses.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Jan. 21.—Since Monday last, increased supplies of potatoes have come to hand coastwise and by railway. The demand is heavy, as follows: York regents, 90s to 100s; Kent and Essex ditto, 90s to 100s; Scotch ditto, 80s to 90s; ditto cups, 70s to 80s; middlings, 55s to 60s; blues, 80s to 90s; Lincolns, 80s to 90s per ton. The imports last week were 2 bags from Harlingen, and 171 ditto from Ireland.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Jan. 21.—During the past week there has been somewhat less demand in our market, but prices generally have maintained their firmness, particularly for the choicest samples.

Mid and East Kents	70s	112s	to	130s
Weald of Kent	65s	90s	to	100s
Sussex pockets	60s	84s	to	95s

WOOL, CITY, Monday, Jan. 21.—The reports from the continental wool markets present no features of importance. At Hamburg a limited business had been done in fleeces at former rates. We have no change to notice in the value of any kind of home-grown wool. The demand still continues steady, and the supply in the market is very small, even the time of year considered. Holders, generally, are very firm.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Down tegs and ewes	1	1	1	2
Half-bred hogs	1	1	1	2
Half-bred wethers	1	0	1	1
Kent fleeces (mixed)	1	1	1	1 1/2
Combing skin	1	0	1	1
Down ewes	1	0	1	1
Leicester fleeces	0	11	1	0 1/2
Flannel wool	1	0	1	2
Blanket wool	0	9	1	0

TALLOW, Monday, Jan. 21.—Owing to the possibility of peace with Russia, our market since Monday last has ruled excessively heavy, and a considerable fall has taken place in the quotations, viz., from 68s to 58s per cwt, the latter being the price of P.Y.C. on the spot to-day. A great fall has been observed in the value of town tallow, and rough fat has declined to 3s per 8 lbs.

#### PARTICULARS.

	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.
59244	43748	41948	34806	21973	
36s 0d	45s 6d	67s 2d	57s 0d	58s 0d	
to	to	to	to	to	
36s 3d	0s 0d	0s 0d	0s 0d	0s 0d	
2643	2045	2365	1417	1451	
73056	68444	70063	52900	80892	
1356	1528	269	1660	2050	
93766	71564	87936	51706	56123	
39s 6d	47s 3d	61s 0d	51s 0d	56s 6d	

OILS, Monday, Jan. 21.—Our market is exceedingly heavy, and sales of linseed oil, on the spot, have been made as low as 40s per cwt. All other oils are offering on lower terms. In turpentine very little is doing.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—Russian hemp is very dull, at 41/2 to 42/2 per ton for Petersburg clean. East India qualities are heavy and drooping. The flax market is dull, and, to effect sales, lower rates must be submitted to. Jute and coir goods are a slow sale.

SPIRITS, LONDON, Saturday, Jan. 19.—here has been a moderate business doing in rum. Proof Lecwards, 2s 9d to 2s 10d; East India, 2s 6d to 2s 7d per gallon. We have no change to notice in the value of brandy. Gin, 17 under proof, 10s; 22 ditto, 9s 6d. Malt spirit, 10s 8d per gallon.

METALS, LONDON, Saturday, Jan. 19.—Scotch pig iron has been in request, at 80s to 81s. All manufactured parcels move

off steadily, at very full prices. Tin is rather active. Banca, 131s; straits, 129s to 129s 6d; refined, 134s to 135s. Tin plates are the turn dealer. IC coke, 30s to 30s 6d; IX ditto, 35s. Copper, steel, and zinc are steady, but we have no change to notice in the quotations.

#### HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS, Saturday, Jan. 12.

Market Hides, 56 to 64 lbs.	0	3 1/2	0	0	per lb
Ditto	64	72	lbs.	0	3 1/2
Ditto	72	80	lbs.	0	4 0 1/2
Ditto	80	88	lbs.	0	4 1/2 0 1/2
Ditto	88	96	lbs.	0	4 1/2 0 1/2
Ditto	96	104	lbs.	0	5 0 1/2
Horse Hides	6	0	0	0	each
Calf Skins, light	2	0	0	0	"
Ditto full	7	0	0	0	"
Polled Sheep	6	6	9	0	"
Kents and Half Breeds	5	6	6	8	"
Downs	4	6	5	8	"
Lambs	0	0	0	0	"
Shearlings	0	0	0	0	"

COALS, Monday.—Market dull. Bell's about 19s 3d. Fresh arrivals, 42; left from last day, 66; total, 108.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, Jan. 22.—The market closed with a hardening tendency, and, compared with the rates of Friday, all kinds are quite as dear, and Surats are 1-16d per lb higher. The sales to-day were estimated at 12,000 bales—7,000 of which were Americans (1,000 for export and 1,000 on speculation), 400 Egyptian at 6 1/4d to 7 1/4d, and 4,000 Surat at 3 1/4d to 4 1/4d per lb. Import since Thursday, 65,000 bales.

### Advertisements.

#### CHAPPUIS' PATENT REFLECTORS.

Manufactory, 10, St. Mary-axe.

THE DAY LIGHT REFLECTORS diffuse light into dark places, and supersede gas during day time.

THE GAS REFLECTOR increases the light, and decreased the consumption of gas; may be seen in operation at the

PATENTEE'S WAREHOUSE, 69, FLEET-STREET.

Every description of Reflectors for scientific, commercial, and domestic purposes, &c., &c.

LAMPES à MODERATEUR, from 6s. to 26 6s.—The demand for these lamps having become general, WM. S. BURTON has collected from the different makers here and in France a variety that defies competition. As many imported from France were found to be inferior in the Works, William S. Burton sent expressly to Paris to select only from the best makers, and he can now guarantee each lamp he sells as perfect in all its parts.

Bronze lamps, full size	10	0	to	20	0
Porcelain, plain and ornamental	16	0	to	25	0
Crystal, richly cut	25	0	to	45	0
Bronze pillar lamps, full size	12	6	to	21	6
Porcelain ditto	23	6	to	45	0
Crystal ditto	27	0	to	66	0
Bronze vase lamps	36	0	to	84	0
Porcelain ditto, many elegantly painted	26	0	to	125	0

Pure Colza Oil, 5s. 6d. per gallon.

39, OXFORD-STREET: 1, 1A, 2, and 3, NEWMAN-STREET, and 4, 5, 6, PERRY'S-PLACE.—Established 1820.

PIANOFORTE for SALE.—It is a very powerful and brilliant-toned Cottage, in an elegant Rosewood Case, 6 1/2 octaves, Metallic Plate, and it has all the very recent improvements; was new within Four months, and will be sold at a low price for ready money. To be seen at



**HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT.**  
SUDBROOK PARK, near Richmond, Surrey, Fifty minutes from London. Terms, Two-and-a-half Guineas per week. Rooms with Two Beds, Four Guineas per week. Farm House Establishment, 5s. 6d. per day. Bath Attendant, 4s. per week.  
FREDERICK THOMSON, Secretary.

**HYDROPATHY.—LEICESTER**  
ESTABLISHMENT, aided, when necessary, by recent discoveries in Medicine. Treatment mild. Terms, 6s. per day. Visitors received at a weekly rate. Baths charged extra. DR. LAURIE, Physician. R. GUTTERIDGE, Esq., Resident Medical Director.

**CHILBLAINS.**—The itching instantly relieved and a speedy cure effected by SAUNDERS' CHILBLAIN BALM, price 1s. 1½d., post free for Sixteen Stamps SAUNDERS, 315 B. Oxford-street, and all Druggists.

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